BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. MDCCCXXXVIII | VOL. 76 NO. 43 | NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) |

RUSSIA AND US HAVE AGREED AT RIYADH TO START WORKING TOWARD ENDING UKRAINE WAR & IMPROVING DIPLOMATIC & ECONOMIC TIES, SAYS SECY OF STATE MARCO RUBIO 22

3 KIIT officials, 2 guards held for assault on Nepal students

Bhubaneswar: Three officials and two security guards of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) were arrested on Tuesday on charges of assaulting Nepalese students during their protest on the campus over a 20-year-old girl from Nepal being allegedly driven to suicide by a BTech batchmate, **reports Debabrata Mohapatra**.

▶ **May bar students going to Odisha: Nepal, P 18**
▶**EDIT: Teach Thyself**

The arrests coincided with Odisha govt instituting a three-member inquiry committee as the row triggered by the third-year student's death on Sunday resonated in the assembly.

Among the panel members is the home department's additional chief secretary Satyabrata Sahu.

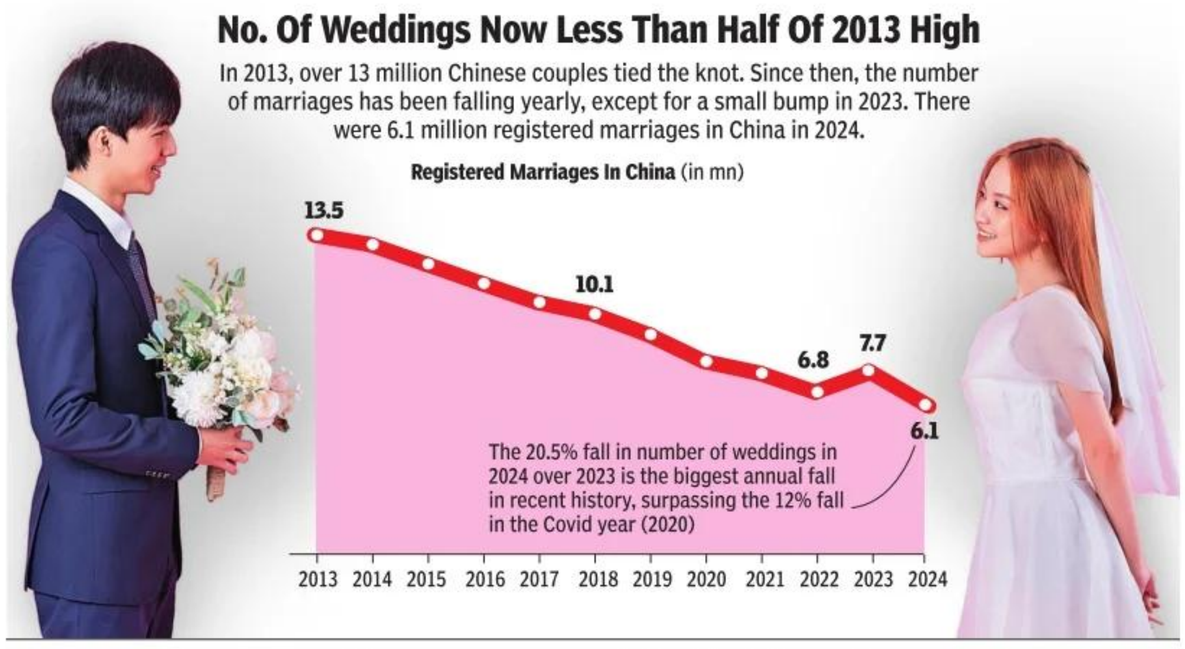
▶**BJP raises issue, P 18**

Cap platform occupancy at rly stns: Experts

Railway platforms must be accessible only to confirmed ticket holders and there must be adequate facilities for all, current and former railway officials say, seeking a cap on platform occupancy to prevent another stampede like that of Feb 15. Delhi's stations, they pointed out, face similar chaos during Holi and Chhath as well. Experts suggest the use of "AI-enabled predictive analytics" to anticipate volumes and implement crowd-control measures. **P 3**

WHY MORE CHINESE ARE NOW EMBRACING SINGLEHOOD

A rising number of Chinese youth feel they are better off staying unmarried. Worried by a declining population, authorities are trying to make them change their minds. But there may be multiple deterrents



No. Of Weddings Now Less Than Half Of 2013 High

In 2013, over 13 million Chinese couples tied the knot. Since then, the number of marriages has been falling yearly, except for a small bump in 2023. There were 6.1 million registered marriages in China in 2024.

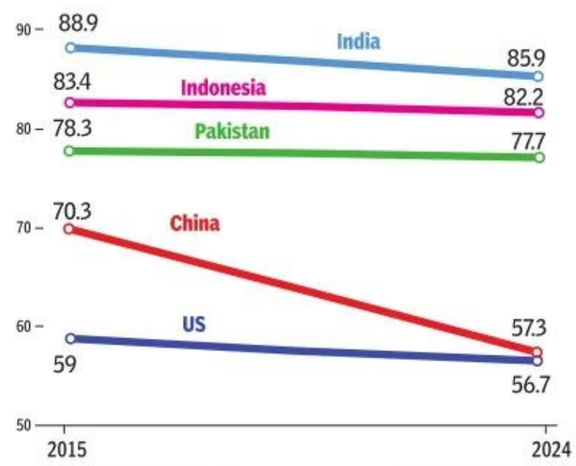
Registered Marriages In China (in mn)

13.5
10.1
6.8
7.7
6.1
The 20.5% fall in number of weddings in 2024 over 2023 is the biggest annual fall in recent history, surpassing the 12% fall in the Covid year (2020)
2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Every 2 of 5 Young Chinese Women Are Unmarried

Among the five most populous countries, the US has the lowest share of married youths in the 20-24 age group. However, China has seen the biggest drop since 2015.

% Of married or in-union women



As Weddings Drop, So Does Popn

Once the world's most populous country, China's stringent single-child policy ensured that its birth rate fell for decades. Then, faced with a declining population and ageing workforce, the Chinese Communist Party reversed course and is now encouraging couples to have up to three children.

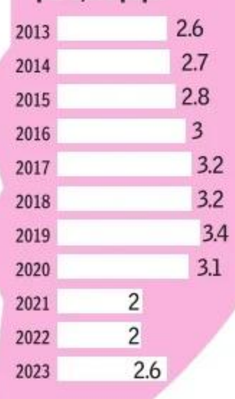
Yearly Births In China (in mn)

20
15
10
5
16.9
17.9
12
9
9.5
In a traditional society where children born out of wedlock are rare, annual births saw a slight rise in 2024 with media reports saying the credit went to Chinese Year of the Dragon and belief that children born during it are likely to have great fortune
2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Divorce Rate Has Crept Up

Divorce rates in China have risen since 2002, except for a brief period between 2019 and 2021. Media reports say that younger Chinese couples are less likely to share the views of the more conservative older generations on maintaining marriages or even starting a family in the first place.

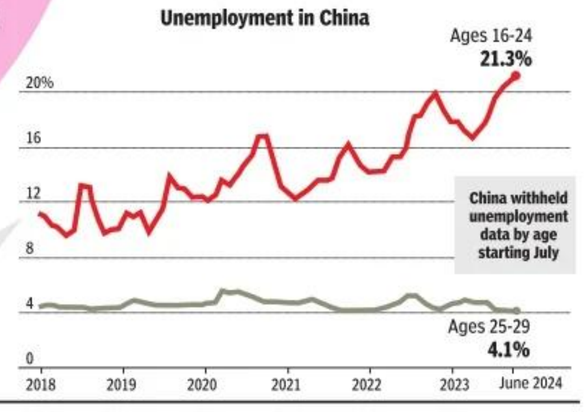
Divorce Rate in China, per 1,000 popn



Job Scene, Cost Of Living Putting Off Youngsters

Slowing economic growth and rising unemployment — one report in Dec last year said that the unemployment rate for the 16-24 age group had remained above 17% since July — are increasingly making marriage a daunting choice. While the high cost of bringing up a child is a factor, youngsters also say long working hours and stressful jobs make dating a difficult proposition.

Unemployment in China



Text: **Kenneth Mohanty**
Graphic: **Anil Dinod**

Source: UN, Statista, media reports

University students who had hit upon the idea of marking singlehood on Nov 11 — because it's denoted by four 1s in a row, or 11/11 — have seen their quirky celebration become one of the biggest shopping festivals and cultural phenomenon. On the other hand, Chinese authorities have been holding state-sponsored dating events and have also launched a matchmaking app.

From 2026, CBSE to hold Class X Boards twice a yr

To Unveil Draft Rules On Mon For Public Opinion

Manash.Gohain
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New Delhi: Hit by the Covid pandemic, albeit later than intended, CBSE will roll out twice-a-year board exams for class X from 2026 and introduce the CBSE Global Curriculum for 260 foreign schools affiliated to it from 2026-2027.

The education ministry held a discussion, led by minister Dharmendra Pradhan, with CBSE officials and heads of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) and Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), where draft schemes, set for public consultation on next Monday, were thoroughly deliberated.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has announced plans to implement multiple board exams annually, allowing students to take their exams twice and retain their best score. This reform aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasises flexibility and a student-centric approach.

According to a ministry official, "The initiative aims at reducing the high-pressure, one-time examination system and provide students with an opportunity to improve their performance without the stress of a single high-stakes test. By offering multiple attempts, CBSE seeks to create a more supportive learning environment that prioritizes conceptual understanding over rote memorisation."

The policy advocates for competency-based evaluations over traditional summative assessments, shifting focus to formative learning and skill mastery. "CBSE is encouraging a shift towards formative learning, where students can focus on skill mastery and self-improvement rather than mere exam performance. This model also aligns with global best practices, such as the SAT system in the US, which allows students to take tests multiple times and submit their best scores," said the official.

The move also supports NEP's goal of inclusivity, accommodating students facing challenges such as exam anxiety or illness. Providing multiple attempts ensures students from diverse backgrounds have a fair chance to showcase their abilities. CBSE is also scaling up teacher training to ensure a smooth transition toward this progressive assessment model.

Pradhan emphasised that the new format is a crucial step towards a stress-free learning environment. "Examination improvement and reform is a key step towards this. This reform will help mitigate exam-related stress and ensure a more balanced evaluation system," he said.

In addition, CBSE will also launch its Global Curriculum for foreign schools in 2026-2027. The curriculum will integrate core Indian subjects.

NEW CHAPTER: CBSE will roll out global curriculum for 260 foreign schools affiliated to it from 2026-2027

Name of '65 war hero erased from UP school gate, refixed after row

Varanasi: The name of 1965 war hero and posthumous Param Vir Chakra awardee Abdul Hamid was briefly erased from the entrance and walls of a govt school in his native village of Dhamupur in eastern UP's Ghazipur, sparking a weeklong backlash that prompted the administration to suspend the headmaster and restore the original signage in the presence of the soldier's family, reports **Rajeev Dikshit**.

While the name "Shahid Veer Abdul Hamid PM Shri Composite Vidyalaya" is back on the horizontal column of the concrete entrance gate, headmaster Ajay Kumar Maurya's Feb 13 suspension has been officially attributed to unspecified "irregularities".

Ghazipur district magistrate Aryaka Akhoury said an inquiry was underway to fix accountability for the whitewashing controversy. "The school is named after the martyr and we have ensured all signage, including the gate, bears the institution's full name," she said.

Hamid's grandson, Jamil Alam, alleged that the headmaster initially claimed the war hero's name wasn't even mentioned in the school's official records. "He buckled under pressure later and said my grandfather's name got erased during routine whitewashing."

After an inspection by the district authorities, the signage at the gate was repainted this week in the presence of Hamid's eldest son, Zainul Hasan.

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NATIONAL BADMINTON COACH P GOPICHAND SAYS, 'UNLESS KIDS ARE FROM RICH BACKGROUND OR HAVE A FAMILY BUSINESS, IT'S NOT ADVISABLE FOR THEM TO TAKE UP SPORTS AS A CAREER' 28

Plane flips over while landing in Toronto, 21 hurt

Reuters

Passengers found themselves hanging upside down Monday as a Delta Airlines plane burst into flames after landing in windy, freezing conditions in Toronto, skidding along the runway and coming to rest belly up, losing its tail and a wing. All 80 aboard clambered out, 21 suffered injuries | P 22

7 suspended for ragging at Kerala college

Amid national outrage over the brutal ragging at Kottayam govt nursing college, Kariavattom Govt College in Thiruvananthapuram has suspended seven final-year degree students accused of assaulting and torturing a first-year biotech student, based on the findings of the anti-ragging panel. BSc student Binz Jose, 19, had lodged complaints with police and college on Feb 11. Cops booked the seven accused for unlawful assembly, rioting, wrongful restraint, voluntarily causing hurt & possessing lethal weapons. P 18

City riots case: FIR against SHO stayed

A Delhi sessions court has stayed a magistrate court's order to register an FIR against the SHO of a police station in a case in which five Muslim men were allegedly assaulted and forced to sing the national anthem and Vande Mataram during the '20 city riots. One of the men died after the incident. P 11

SC slams YouTuber but shields him from arrest

Seeks Help To Regulate Social Media Content

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@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Tuesday condemned influencer Ranveer Allahbadia for his offensive remarks on the 'India's Got Latent' show but shielded him against arrest in FIRs lodged in various states. The court sought assistance of top law officers to "devise something" to stop "anything and everything" from being broadcast on social media under the guise of free speech.

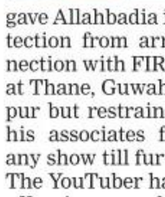
A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh gave Allahbadia interim protection from arrest in connection with FIRs registered at Thane, Guwahati and Jaipur but restrained him and his associates from airing any show till further orders. The YouTuber had made the offensive remarks as one of the panelists in comedian Samay Raina's show, which was launched last June.

The bench said, "There is complete lack of responsibility and the behaviour is condemnable. He thinks he is popular and can say anything taking the entire society for granted and get away with it. Would anyone...like the kind of words he used? There is something very dirty in his mind that has been vomited out in this programme."

▶ EDIT PG: **Why They Talk Dirty/Bad Taste Isn't Crime**

▶ **AG, SG assistance, P 21**

> The words you (Ranveer Allahbadia, pic) have chosen **will put to shame every parent**, daughters, sisters as well as brothers and **society as a whole**
>
> People cannot decide who is right or wrong, and punish a person by taking the law into their own hands. We strongly disapprove such extension of threats to Allahbadia. But **there is no actual threat to your life. As there are only three FIRs, you go and defend yourself**



> **Only because a litigant can afford to approach the highest court straightaway, can he demand that he does not want to go to so many places** and that investigations be carried out at a place of his choice... the state will extend requisite protection to him — **SC Bench**

Teen tried as adult for rape of minor gets 20-year jail

Lucknow: A man, 22, charged with raping a three-year-old girl when he was 17 and tried as an adult in a Lucknow Pocso court since 2019 was sentenced to 20 years in jail and fined Rs 1 lakh after being convicted this week, **reports Pathikrit Chakraborty**.

Legal clearance for the then teenage suspect to be tried as an adult was based on a medical test that purportedly confirmed he had "the mental maturity" of someone over 18 "while committing the offence and understanding its consequences".

▶ **Grandma filed case, P 21**

IN THE COURTS

➤ Bby HC **rejects** German Bakery blast **convict's plea against solitary confinement**, says 'no concern about psychological trauma' | P 14

➤ MP HC gives **nod to govt plan for 'retrial' of Carbide waste disposal** to assess environmental impact | P 14

➤ Bombay HC **orders release of woman, ailing baby** from city jail | P 14

➤ SC **junks plea of Sukesh Chandrashekhar** seeking his shift from Delhi to a prison in K'taka, his home state | P 11

Tatas give ₹500cr funding to Breach Candy

Tata Group is set to expand its presence in healthcare through a Rs 500-crore contribution to Breach Candy Hospital, in a move that will bring the 275-bed South Bombay hospital within its ambit of influence, **reports Reeba Zachariah**.

TOI EXCLUSIVE

The funding will enable the group to add three representatives to the 14-member board of trustees. Group chairman N Chandrasekaran will replace Deepak Parekh as chairman of the hospital trust from Oct 1, 2025. P 12

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Your smartphone killer is around the corner

Friends across different cities would play board games with phygital presence around a virtual setting

Can you do without a smartphone? In a future not too far away, the answer could be a 'yes'.

The handheld's reign as the apex communication device is under serious challenge from the next computing revolution. At its heart is a part of your persona — the glasses you wear. After years of experiment, the latest versions of smart glasses are the closest Big Tech has come to building the next 'king' device.

Over the years, the apex device of every generation has become the one with maximum computing power at its core (radio, TV, music players, phone, PCs, smartphone). The smartphone is already all the others packed into one, but seems to have hit the end of its innovation cycle. So, the ground is fertile for a new device to fill the innovation gap.

With smartphones, the world has been living with the internet 24x7. The new computing breakthrough wants you to live inside it as Big Tech pursues a more "intuitive" and "collaborative" way of communication, away from the "restrictive rectangles" in our hands to a wearable.

Last year, the race to build glasses for the AI era heated up. Meta unveiled Orion (prototype) and Snap Inc launched its latest generation of Spectacles (available for a subscription to its developers), both working on augmented reality or AR. Google has built a prototype of its new smart glass with Project Astra. And Samsung has unveiled Project Moohan, its new headset that will be the first to run on Android XR (extended reality), the OS Google is building for this leap. Snap Inc has launched its own OS for AR apps too.

Why Two Tech Giants Are Betting On Glasses

EVAN SPIEGEL
CEO, Snap Inc

FREEDOM FROM SCREEN | I think today, people are frustrated by the amount of time they're spending on screens. They feel like screens take them away from their friends or out of the real world... and we think that there's a real opportunity to build technology that's grounded in the real world, that brings people together with their friends and is supported with natural interaction. You don't have to learn how to use a mouse and a keyboard. You can just interact with digital objects the same way you interact with physical objects.

MARK ZUCKERBERG
CEO, Facebook

GLASSES AS DEFAULT GO-TO THING | You're sitting at your desk and you have your computer there, yet you still pull out your phone to do things. So, at some point in the last 10 years, mobile became the primary computing platform. We didn't get rid of our computers. It's just that even when you have it, you're still doing more things on your phone. So I think what's going to happen with glasses is we're going to get to this point, probably some time in the 2030s, where you have your phone with you but it's going to stay in your pocket because you'd be doing more and more things with your glasses that today you do with your phone. Glasses will be your main computing platform, your default go-to thing.

3 Reasons Why It's A Breakthrough

1 **YOU WEAR IT:** Wearable experiments, especially with glasses, aren't new — think Google Glass, VR headsets, or MR devices like Apple's Vision Pro. Despite this, none have become mainstream due to challenges like weight and functionality. Orion (98g with a neural wristband) and Spectacles (226g, standalone) are lighter and more advanced but still heavier than regular glasses, hinting at progress in addressing these issues.

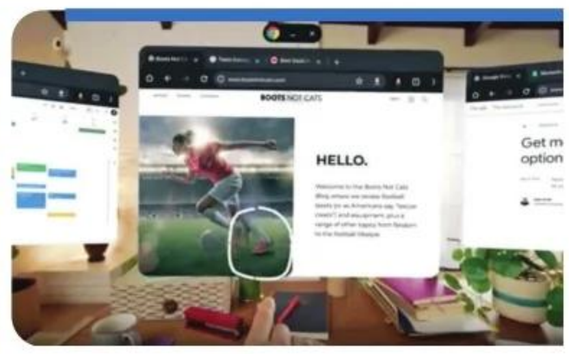
2 **IT'S REAL:** Big Tech now leans towards AR (augmented reality) over VR/MR for its real-world integration. AR glasses like Orion and Spectacles appear normal until powered on, projecting holograms over what you see. This allows walls, tables, or parks to become interactive screens.

3 **GEN AI:** Generative AI sets these devices apart, accelerating tech development from years to days. Just as the internet revolutionised smartphones, gen AI will be foundational for the next 'king' device.

From Using Internet To Living Inside It

The latest AR glasses replicate many smartphone functions — taking photos, video calls, gaming, watching videos, reading, and using AI assistants — but in 3D, offering a more immersive experience. This screen can be navigated through pinch gestures. They also enable collaboration beyond a phone's capabilities.

With the Snap spectacles, you can play a game of virtual chess on your real table – lifting pieces with pinch gestures and making your moves on the virtual board



Experience multiple virtual screens within your field of vision, enhancing productivity without physical monitors

- Transform standard 2D images into dynamic 3D displays, bringing photos and videos to life before your eyes
- AI-powered assistance — navigation, translation, contextual information, calls — in real time with hands-free convenience
- Capture and share pictures and videos from glasses

Scope Is Endless

Glasses, AR and AI combined will go in the basic stage where the most evolved smartphone hasn't, especially on collaboration. They enable holographic meetings, remote events, and lessons from home. Talking of the possibilities, Evan Spiegel described this future as "the world's best boxing coach teaching you in your living room. This will happen through parallel evolution in app development with AR becoming the foundational development platform. A news app, for instance, could display a holographic screen anywhere. Spiegel predicts millions will adopt AR glasses by the decade's end, transforming daily life and work.

Feature	Meta's Orion	Snap's Spectacles	Google-Samsung
DESIGN	Lightweight, professional look	Trendy, social media-friendly design	Android XR is a collaboration between Google and Samsung (plus Qualcomm). It's likely to debut with a Samsung mixed-reality headset codenamed Project Moohan by the end of 2025
DISPLAY	Advanced AR visuals, 70° field of view	AR display, narrower 46° field of view	
CONTROL	Gesture control with AI integration	Touch controls and voice commands	
PURPOSE	Productivity, virtual collaboration	Social content creation, AR filters	
TARGET AUDIENCE	Professionals, developers	Creators, influencers	
AVAILABILITY	Developer-only for now	Limited release for creators	

Coming How Soon?

Snap unveiled Spectacles in Sept 2024, followed by Meta's Orion days later. Snap's glasses are subscription-only for its lens developers. Meta sells basic smart glasses under the Ray-Ban Meta brand, and Oculus VR wearables. The Google-Samsung project has the most ambitious timeline, aiming for a late 2025 launch, though no official announcement has been made. Apple's Vision Pro stands out as the most feature-rich — and most expensive — wearable resembling smart glasses. The biggest challenge for all? Balancing power and portability—how to extend battery life while keeping the glasses lightweight as they evolve into the next-gen supercomputers.

Text: **Saikat Dasgupta**; Design: **Sajeev Kumarapuram**

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Fugitive bizman Vijay Mallya's barrister tells London court that banks pursuing his client are 'acting in bad faith' and not being transparent, but judge dismisses his plea to adjourn Mallya's appeal hearing against his bankruptcy order, P 15

Hamas says it will release six living Israeli hostages on Saturday & bodies of four others Thursday, P 22

HEALTH+ Why young Indians in their 20s are developing brittle bones, P 9

Elon Musk is not an official employee of DOGE & has 'no formal authority to make govt decisions', according to a White House court filing, P 22

Featuring eight of the best sides in the ODI format, the 9th edition of Champions Trophy begins today with a **clash between Rizwan-led Pak team & Santner-led NZ team in Karachi**, P 27

Prez gives nod to prosecute Jain in PMLA case

Acting on MHA's request, President Droupadi Murmu Tuesday gave her nod to prosecute Delhi ex-health minister Satyendar Jain in a PMLA case. Earlier, MHA had given its sanction to ED to prosecute Jain after the agency accused him of acquiring over 123 acres of agricultural land in villages northwest of Delhi through shell companies controlled by him and his relatives. P 5

Passengers, drivers to fix Uber auto fares

Uber has scrapped commission charges levied on auto drivers and switched to a fixed subscription-fee system, similar to Rapido. Fares displayed on the app will be suggestive, with final pricing left to direct negotiation between drivers and passengers. P 18

Student rams Audi into scooter, 2 hurt

A youth, 20, and his teenage nephew were injured after their scooter was rammed by an Audi being driven by a BBA student in south Delhi's Jorbagh late on Monday. The Audi driver was arrested and later released on bail. One of the injured is critical. P 4

4 get life for murder over flying pigeons

A fast-track court in UP has sentenced four men to life in jail for the murder of a 40-year-old woman who was brutally attacked for objecting to flying pigeons by the accused near her house in Muzaffarnagar. The accused repeatedly hit the woman with a spade, killing her. P 14

Qatar to invest $10bn in India; FTA in works

Ties Upgraded To Strategic Partnership

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KEY OUTCOMES OF BILATERAL TALKS

- **Joint ministerial commissions** at level of foreign and commerce ministers
- A future India-Qatar **free trade agreement**
- **Deepening energy partnership** through trade and mutual investments
- **Extension of Indian e-visa** facility for Qatari nationals
- Operationalisation of **India's UPI in Qatar**
- India & Qatar to celebrate **year of culture & friendship** in future

Photo: Piyal Bhattacharjee

PM Modi welcomes the Amir of Qatar at Hyderabad House

New Delhi: India and Qatar upgraded their ties to a strategic partnership as PM Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with the visiting Qatar Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, discussing ways to enhance cooperation in areas like trade, investment, energy and security. Qatar committed to investing $10 billion in India, as it announced Qatar Investment Authority will open an office in India.

The two spoke about signing a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and agreed to double the current $14 billion bilateral trade in the next five years. Apart from the establishment of strategic partnership, six other deals were signed, including a revised agreement for avoidance of double taxation and another for financial and economic collaboration. They also agreed to expedite negotiations for India-Qatar Bilateral Investment Treaty.

Qatar is the 5th GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) country with which India has signed a strategic partnership agreement, after the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Kuwait. Modi and Al-Thani discussed the West Asia situation. An official said while talks are under way for an India-GCC FTA, India and Qatar at the bilateral level will look at the possibility of having an FTA in the future.

▶To jointly fight terror, P 21

Agusta case: SC gives bail to Christian Michel

Raising questions on delay in trial, Supreme Court Tuesday granted bail to UK arms consultant and alleged middleman, Christian James Michel, in the Agusta-Westland chopper scam case being probed by the CBI. SC granted him bail with a condition that he should renew his passport and surrender it. Opposing bail, CBI contended that he was extradited from Dubai to face trial & he shouldn't be given relief. P 14

CBSE to hold 2 Class X boards a year from '26

CBSE will roll out twice-a-year board exams for class X from 2026 and introduce CBSE Global Curriculum for its 260 foreign schools from 2026-27. Education ministry held a discussion, led by Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan, with CBSE officials and heads of NCERT, KVS & Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, where draft schemes set for public consultation, were discussed. FLAP INSIDE

River water at Kumbh highly polluted: NGT

NGT has flagged alarming pollution levels in Yamuna and Ganga at Prayagraj during the ongoing Kumbh, **reports Kushagra Dixit**. Coliform levels, a measure of untreated sewage or bacteria found in excreta, were found up to 1,400 times safe standards for bathing in Ganga and 660 times safe levels in Yamuna. **UPPCB, however, said their samples met safe standards.** P 17

SC hearing today on petitions challenging CEC appt process

New Law Dropped CJI, Included Min In Selection Panel

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after Gyanesh Kumar was appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner, Supreme Court on Tuesday said it would endeavour to conduct the final hearing on a bunch of petitions challenging the validity of a Parliament-enacted law that altered the composition of the SC-devised panel for the selection of the CEC and ECs. The law included a Cabinet minister in the panel, excluding the Chief Justice of India.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan requested a bench of Justices Surya Kant and N K Singh to take up the hearing on the petitions, which are almost at the fag end of the list of cases scheduled to be heard on Wednesday, to be taken on priority and for issuance of instructions to that effect to the SC officials concerned. The bench declined to issue any direction but said it would hear the matters.

A little later, solicitor general Tushar Mehta sought adjournment of a petition on alleged encounter killings in Assam, a case in which the petitioner is represented by Bhushan, which the bench agreed to. Bhushan said the Assam encounter case can be adjourned but the matter relating to the EC selection process cannot wait as it is very important for holding free and fair elections.

▶Refused to stay law, P 16

> It is both disrespectful and discourteous for the PM and HM to have made a midnight decision to select the new CEC, when the very composition of the committee and the process is being challenged in SC
> —**Rahul Gandhi** | LOP

> Such egregious behaviour only confirms doubts... about how the ruling regime is destroying the electoral process and bending rules for its benefit
> —**K C Venugopal** | AICC gen secy

> Cong never missed an opportunity to insult Ambedkar, yet the yuvraj of Congress has the audacity to grandstand on upholding Baba Saheb's ideals... Rahul Gandhi and Cong Party are acting like cry babies —**Dharmendra Pradhan** | Union minister

> It is an attempt to undermine the constitutional mandate of the elected government through malicious judicial activism
> —**Amit Malviya** | BJP IT dept chief

Man killed before hearing in wife's gang-rape case

Two days before a court hearing over the abduction and gang rape of his wife, the burnt remains of a man, 40, was found in UP's Mainpuri Tuesday. The man had accused former village head Bhola Yadav of pressuring him to withdraw the case. His family has alleged murder and filed a police complaint. "Yadav and two of his men raped me in June 2022. He then kept me captive for four months," the woman told **TOI**, adding "Yadav has been threatening to also kill my brother". P 12

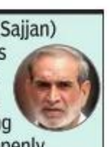
Prosecution seeks death for Sajjan in '84 riots case

The prosecution on Tuesday sought death penalty for former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in a case related to the murder of a father and son during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, calling it "rarest of rare", **reports Vineet Upadhyay**.

The court of special judge Kaveri Baweja on Feb 12 convicted Kumar of the murder of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarundeep. The matter will be heard Feb 21.

The prosecution, led by special public prosecutor Manish Rawat, told the court that such incidents break the "entire fibre of trust and harmony among communities". The impact was such that witnesses were "inconsolably weeping" while giving testimonies after 39 years, it said. P 5

> The accused (Sajjan) was a people's representative as he was MP of that area, and instead of helping helpless people, he openly broke rule of law. The accused was such a powerful person that he escaped the process of law from 1984 to 2016
> —**Prosecution submission**



Tesla in India soon? Co advertises 13 staff posts

Elon Musk appears inching closer to launching Tesla electric cars in India. Days after meeting PM Modi in the US, Tesla seems to have revived its stalled plans to enter the Indian market and has advertised for retail positions in Mumbai, **reports Pankaj Doval**.

The company has listed 13 jobs on its website and social media platform LinkedIn for various customer-facing and back-end roles in Mumbai. This is one of the strongest indications that the company has finally decided to look at starting operations in the country, after flirting with the idea for several years. P 23

Mobile exports surge 50% on iPhone shipments

A record production of iPhones has led to a 50% surge in India's mobile phone exports in the first 10 months of this fiscal, with the value of shipments estimated at Rs 1.5 lakh crore during April-Jan, compared with Rs 1 lakh crore in same period last year.

It is estimated that iPhone exports during April-Jan were close to Rs 1 lakh crore, as compared with Rs 60,000 crore during the same period last year. P 23

Police neutralise drone over Ram temple route

Police intercepted a drone camera flying over the Ram temple route in Ayodhya during a trial of an anti-drone system on Tuesday and shot it down, officials said. Police lodged an FIR stating that it was a deep conspiracy to create chaos at the temple that might kill devotees in large numbers.

However, police refused to give further details, saying a probe is on. According to sources, the conspirator has been identified and he is from Gurgaon. Authorities in Ayodhya have activated the anti-drone security mechanism. Flying drones over the temple is strictly prohibited. PTI

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Nights get warmer as min temp rises; rain likely | 11

TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

TEMP ON TUESDAY
28.8° MAXIMUM | 13.2° MINIMUM

FORECAST Shallow fog likely. Max and min temperatures on Wednesday would be around 28°C and 12°C

MOONSET 10:19AM (WED) MOONRISE 12.22AM (THU)
SUNSET 6.14PM (WED) SUNRISE 6.55AM (THU)

209 AQI IN DELHI ON TUESDAY (POOR CATEGORY)

NDMC cracks down on property tax defaulters; 3,200 identified | 5

HC: Chandni Chowk our heritage, we must protect it | 8

How Safe Are Delhi's Three Other Stations

TOI Finds Enhanced Measures In Place Though Crowd Surge Not As Severe As At NDLS Where Stampede Left At Least 18 Dead

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Following the stampede that claimed 18 lives at New Delhi Railway Station last Saturday, **TOI** visited the other railway stations in the city to find varying levels of preparedness to deal with emergencies. Railway authorities are, of course, beefing up safety protocols and supplementing crowd management efforts to prevent a repeat of Saturday's tragedy, but while some stations displayed enhanced measures, others fell short in certain areas, notably medical emergency preparedness.

At Anand Vihar Railway Station, the boost in security measures was evident amid the huge crowds heading to Bihar and the Maha Kumbh. Eight trains were travelling to Prayagraj on Tuesday, including a special, from the station, which has seven platforms. A medical booth was present at platform 1, where Ram Swaroop Meena, the person in charge, said passengers were provided medicines for fever and other minor ailments. There was an ambulance on standby for use in serious cases. According to railway officials, oxygen is available in the ambulances stationed outside all railway stations.

Rail passengers said that there should be more medical booths at Anand Vihar. Rajkumar, 51, of Gamri Extension in Shahdara, was at the station, preparing to travel to Bihar for a marriage function. "I regularly board trains from this station. In comparison with some earlier journeys, the security has been heightened this time," he revealed.

Imtiyaz Ahmad of Batla House, also travelling to Bihar on the Sapt Kranti Express, differed with Rajkumar. "Given the large crowds at this station, I think more security personnel should be posted," he said. As the crowd surged onto the platform, a woman Railway Protection Force officer urged passengers not to breach the rope barrier. When the Sapt Kranti Express arrived, the RPF personnel used loud hailers and whistles to signal passengers to be patient when boarding the train.

At Old Delhi Railway Station, at least six Prayagraj trains, including two Maha Kumbh specials, were leaving between 4.20am and 11.25pm. The station has 16 platforms, entry to which were manned by RPF personnel at the scanner and the gate. Overall, however, the checks and measures did not seem urgent enough given the New Delhi catastrophe.

Compared with New Delhi or Anand Vihar, the platform bridges at Old Delhi were relatively uncrowded. Most passengers had congregated on platforms 12 and 13, where noticeably, no security officials were present. The platform space was cluttered by beddings and luggage. While Bhainal, a hawker on the platform, claimed that after the stampede at New Delhi on Saturday, security had been increased for the special Maha Kumbh trains, this wasn't much in evidence. People could be seen perilously close to the edge of the platform. Notably, platform 13 lacked even the basic safety barrier of ropes to prevent accidental falls. Some people were crossing the tracks to enter the station. There was no medical booth in sight, though a railway official argued that the station was close to a hospital and there wasn't much of a rush anyway.

Rupesh, a 25-year-old sound designer, was waiting for a train to Faridabad. He described the operations as "very smooth". He said, "People should understand that if there's a rush, they shouldn't panic. But security personnel must be present in adequate numbers and improve crowd management to prevent any untoward incident."

Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station displayed a mix of security preparedness and laxity. At the main entrance, staff members diligently verified tickets and directed passengers to their platforms. Two RPF personnel were stationed at the baggage scanner, scrutinising each bag that passed through. However, while the platform area was surprisingly calm, with minimal crowd and rush, there was a noticeable lack of patrolling by RPF. The hawkers revealed that RPF staff only came when trains were about to arrive and got embarking passengers to form queues. There was no medical booth at the station and outside the station, there was a knot of traffic.

While the enhanced measures are a step in the right direction, much appeared yet to be achieved at the stations. The infrastructure seemed inadequate, meaning the risk of overcrowding and stampedes remained high. Nevertheless, the increased vigilance and some added measures taken by the authorities were welcome and the passengers hoped these would continue to improve the overall travel experience.

TIMES Special

PREPARED, YES. BUT NOT FOOL-PROOF

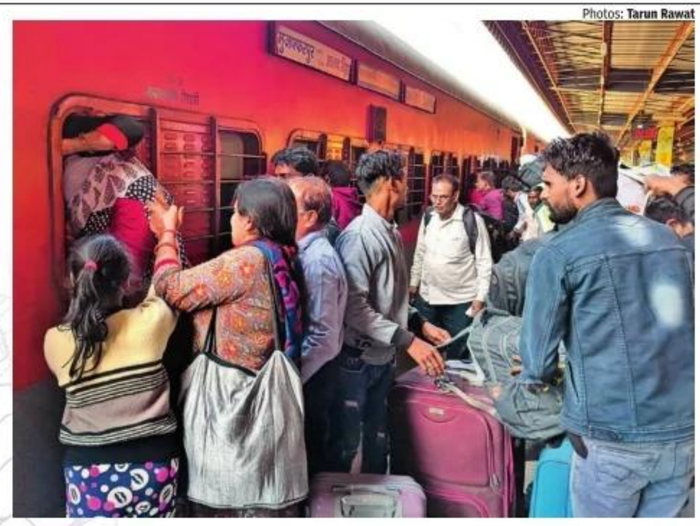
Photos: Tarun Rawat

1 Smaller crowds but dangers lurk at Old Delhi Railway Station

PLATFORMS 16 | PRAYAGRAJ-BOUND TRAINS 6, INCLUDING TWO SPECIAL TRAINS

- Maximum number of passengers on platforms 12&13
- Passengers found standing close to the edge of platforms
- No ropes tied on Platform 13 to prevent people from falling over
- People sitting on platform bridge
- Many entering station by crossing tracks in Old Delhi

Cluttered platform space



2 Anand Vihar Railway Station seems well-equipped to deal with crowd surge

PLATFORMS 7 | PRAYAGRAJ-BOUND TRAINS 8, INCLUDING 1 SPECIAL TRAIN

A sizeable crowd had gathered to catch trains to Bihar and Prayagraj

Deployment of security personnel increased on platforms and at the entrance

A first-aid booth was set up, and an ambulance deployed outside

3 Mixed signals at Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station

PLATFORMS 9 | PRAYAGRAJ-BOUND TRAINS NONE

- Increased deployment at main entrance but checks lacking inside
- Staff guiding passengers to respective platforms
- Medical booths lacking

WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE

- Install platform screen doors as more effective alternative to tying ropes
- Set up more medical booths
- Deploy additional ambulances
- Beef up security deployment
- Stop people from crossing tracks
- Create bigger waiting areas

Note: Number of Prayagraj-bound stations vary daily

'Holding area' set up at NDLS to curb chaos, but ticketing remains concern

Devanshi.Mehta
@timesofindia.com

Photo: Tarun Rawat

Crowds continue to swell at NDLS
Cops lend a helping hand
Automatic ticket vending machines put in place
Ticket counters for those who prefer the manual way
विश्रामस्थल
पांडाल में अनारक्षित (जनरल), आरक्षित (रिजर्वड) टिकट एवं पूछ-ताछ काउन्टर उपलब्ध है।

New Delhi: When passengers arrived at New Delhi Railway Station to catch their trains on Tuesday afternoon, they were quickly ushered to a sprawling tent. They were told they could wait there for their train to arrive and, thus, avoid overcrowding the platforms.

In the tented area were rows of booths, each serving a specific purpose. One was for inquiries, where frustrated passengers could seek answers to their questions. Eight booths were set up for purchasing unreserved tickets. For those who preferred a more digital approach, five automated ticket vending machines had been set up for quick ticket purchases.

As the afternoon progressed, the tent began to fill up with passengers, all patiently waiting for their trains to be announced. Railway officials were especially concerned about the expected rush for two major trains — the special train for Maha Kumbh at 5pm and the Shiv Ganga Express at 8pm. These trains were expected to see massive ridership and it was likely that the tented holding area would reach full capacity by this time.

While the new arrangement offered some respite, many passengers were quick to point out that these measures could have been implemented earlier and potentially saved lives.

At the old ticket counters, people had to strictly queue up and general compartment tickets were sold only two hours before the train departure. However, despite these measures, congestion continued to be a problem, particularly as the evening approached. The counter near the stairway at platform 16 was overcrowded and the slow-moving lines contributed to the growing tension among the passengers.

Many others voiced frustration at the ticketing system. Many complained that they were only allowed to purchase tickets an hour before departure, which didn't appear to help reduce the swelling crowds. "We arrived in the morning hoping to buy tickets early and avoid hassles," said Alok who was waiting for the Maha Kumbh special. "However, we were informed that tickets would only be sold only an hour before the train's 5pm arrival. Now my family and I are unsure if we will be able to board the train."

Another concern raised by passengers was the chaotic passage from the holding area to the platforms when the trains were announced. Despite the temporary space created for waiting passengers, the unregulated transition to boarding remained a safety issue, with many fearing the possibility of another stampede.

"The afternoon crowd is manageable, but the situation becomes chaotic between 4pm and 7pm when the passenger numbers surge," said a railway official. "We don't have enough counters or staff to handle that rush and our existing staff members are still in training and relatively inexperienced."

With the recent stampede tragedy still fresh in mind, New Delhi railway station's administration has tried to pull out all stops to enhance safety, fortifying protocols and strengthening crowd management to prevent such incidents in the future. Despite these efforts, however, the passengers said much work obviously remained to be done to address the deep-seated infrastructure and logistical challenges that the city's railway network continues to face.

Quack among 3 held for killing 68-yr-old businessman during robbery in N Delhi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Three men, including a quack and two ward boys, were arrested for the murder of a 68-year-old businessman during a robbery in north Delhi's Sarai Rohilla area. The accused were identified as Mohammad Pravez Alam (27), a quack who runs a clinic in Muzaffarnagar, UP, and ward boys, Mohammad Nasir (30)and Nikhil Kumar (19).

Police received a PCR call on Feb 1 regarding the murder and promptly dispatched a team to the crime scene—an office in the Vivekanandpuri shopping complex, Sarai Rohilla. There, they found the body of the deceased, identified as Ranbir Singh, a businessman from Moti Bagh. Singh's son suspected foul play, as an ultrasound machine was found missing from the office.

DCP (north) Raja Banthia said police reviewed over 300 CCTV footages to track the movements of the accused. The probe led to the identification of three men seen near the scene shortly before the murder, travelling in a car. Police conducted a raid in Bhagra, Muzaffarnagar, where the men were arrested and the stolen items recovered. The car was also seized.

Further probe revealed that Alam, the main conspirator, needed to buy an ultrasound machine for his clinic. Alam had researched the victim's office online. "Eight months prior, he tried to purchase the equipment, but the deal fell through. Subsequently, Alam conspired with his two associates to rob the victim of the ultrasound machine and a laptop. On the day of the incident, the three men went to Singh's office, where they overpowered him during negotiations. They strangled him, injected him with a syringe to incapacitate him, and then fled the scene with the stolen items," police said. Police recovered the stolen ultrasound machine and other electronic items from the accused.

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If Malls Can, Why Can't Railway Stns? Need For Cap On Platform Occupancy

Experts Call For Crowd Control Measures On Lines Of Vehicle Capacity Limits At Mkts

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New Delhi: While even shopping malls and markets in the city clearly display their vehicle capacity limits at the entrance of their parking lots and restrict additional cars once full, railway stations in Delhi strangely lack any kind of crowd management protocols. There are no defined limits for platform occupancy, allowing a dangerous situation to prevail, which has ultimately cost lives on several occasions.

Current and former railway officials stressed the immediate need for system modernisation and concrete actions. They noted that besides Kumbh, Delhi's stations face similar chaos during Holi and Chhath festivities as well.

A key step, they said, would be to restrict platform access to confirmed ticket holders. By setting up ticket checks at the platform entrance, railway authorities can ensure that only passengers with valid confirmed tickets are allowed to enter. Limiting the number of passengers on the platform at any given time, particularly during peak hours, can also help prevent overcrowding and ensure that passengers are not put in harm's way, they added.

However, before implementing measures to restrict platform access, railways must first ensure that the infrastructure is in place to support the needs of all passengers, according to several retired officials.

"This includes providing adequate facilities for the handicapped, elderly, and those requiring special assistance. Ramps, elevators and accessible toilets are just a few examples of the infrastructure. The needs of the poor and the lesser educated also have to be catered to," said a former railways divisional manager.

"Additionally, railways could consider making exceptions for family members or attendants accompanying elderly passengers or those with disabilities or special needs," said a senior cop.

Many officials and senior cops suggested that artificial intelligence (AI) could be instrumental in addressing station overcrowding issues.

"Through AI-enabled predictive analytics, we can easily anticipate passenger volumes and identify potential congestion periods to implement appropriate crowd-control measures. The AI systems could also utilise real-time data from sensors and cameras to detect overcrowding and prompt immediate intervention," said a senior officer.

By leveraging AI-powered analytics, railway authorities can take proactive measures, such as adjusting train schedules, diverting passengers to less crowded platforms, or deploying additional staff to manage the crowds. AI-powered chatbots and mobile apps can provide passengers with personalised travel recommendations, helping to distribute the passenger load more evenly across different trains, platforms and stations, a senior officer who deals in police modernisation said.

Delhi Police, for instance, has started using AI on several fronts, ranging from suspect identification through facial recognition to chatbots. It has also been experimenting with predictive policing.

Another way to manage crowds is to limit the sale of general tickets during peak hours and bar waitlisted passengers from entering the platform, said officials.

"Strict enforcement of separate entry and exit points can also streamline passenger flow. Additionally, setting up permanent designated waiting areas for passengers outside the platforms can help prevent congestion," said an RPF official.

With surging crowds and trains rumbling in, Delhi's railway stations are ticking time bombs. The consequences of this oversight are all too familiar – crushing crowds, frantic passengers, and the ever-present threat of stampedes, as seen in the incident on Saturday.

"Maybe it's time to take a cue from the way parking lots in the city are managed," a retired railway officer said.

Tarun Rawat

JAM-PACKED: Besides Kumbh, Delhi's stations face similar chaos during Holi and Chhath travel as well

Rly ministry: Panel probing stampede

New Delhi: The ministry of railways on Tuesday said that a two-member high-level committee set up by Northern Railway was investigating the stampede at New Delhi Railway Station. "More than 100 individual statements are being collected by the committee. After receiving all such statements, the committee will conduct a thorough examination, including cross-questioning, to establish the exact sequence of events that led to the incident," it said. The inquiry report will be submitted by the committee, it added. TNN

3-year-old boy drowns

Ghaziabad: The body of a three-year-old boy, who went missing in the morning hours on Tuesday, was found by his family members hours later. The toddler lost his life after falling into a pit — full of dirty water — situated near a school in the East Sangam Vihar area. The deceased was identified as Anas, a resident of East Sangam Vihar colony, Loni Border. TNN

MCD launches night sweeping drive: In a bid to improve cleanliness across the city, MCD Mayor Mahesh Kumar Khichi on Tuesday directed Deputy Commissioners of all 12 zones to implement a night sweeping initiative in over 300 identified markets. Strict action will be taken against littering. PTI

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3 Trains In 45 Mins And A Rush: How Panic Spreads

GHAZIABAD: Passengers For 2 Trains Pack Into One Platform, Many Get Off On Tracks From Third, Head For Same Platform

Umesh Kumar & Ayantika Pal | TNN

Ghaziabad: In a season of crowded trains as many head to Kumbh, the chaos that trains arriving simultaneously can unleash was seen on Tuesday afternoon at Ghaziabad railway station.

Three days after a stampede left 18 people dead at New Delhi station, a huge crowd built up on Platform No. 2 of Ghaziabad junction as two trains, reached the platform 2 within a gap of 20 minutes and yet another made an unscheduled halt on the main line, leading to a rush of people who alighted from the train and rushed towards the platform.

Passengers jostled to board trains, some through the windows in a desperate bid to secure a few inches of space. People also hung on to the doors of the packed compartments.

With RPF personnel on alert after the Delhi incident, they stepped in timely to control the crowd. But the episode underlined a problem similar to New Delhi's – Ghaziabad, though a busy junction, is a much smaller station with six platforms but doesn't have adequate holding area when there is a big rush, leaving its platforms vulnerable to overcrowding.

Tuesday's rush began as the Lucknow-bound Gomti Express entered Platform No. 2 around 1.30pm from Delhi. With Shramjeevi Express scheduled to reach the station around 1.50pm, many passengers waiting for it were on the platform, too. When Gomti Express entered, many with general tickets tried to get in. The train was already full, leading to pushing and shoving and shouting on the platform. Some passengers with valid tickets tried to make their way through the crowd but failed.

"I had a confirmed ticket, but I couldn't even get close to the train because of the crowd. People without tickets rushed in, and there was no way to stop them," a passenger of Gomti Express said.

When the Bihar-bound Shramjeevi Express, which also stops in Lucknow, arrived around 1.50pm, passengers who were unable to board Gomti Express made a desperate dash for it. "For a few moments, sheer terror gripped me as I feared it might become another tragedy like New Delhi," a porter said.

Photos: Umesh Kumar

At 2.15 pm, Magadh Express, on its way to New Delhi, stopped on the main line, which is typically reserved for express trains that do not halt at Ghaziabad, due to a red signal. As soon as the train stopped, hundreds of passengers who live in or around Ghaziabad got off the train and rushed across the tracks to reach the nearest platform.

Many of them tried to get on to Platform No. 2, which was still crowded. "Fortunately, no other train was passing through at the time. Railway Protection Force acted swiftly to remove passengers from the tracks," a kiosk owner said.

A passenger waiting on the platform since afternoon to catch a train scheduled at 5 pm described the scenes as "terrifying".

"There was no place to even stand, let alone move. People were pushing, and many climbed onto the tracks just to reach their trains," he said.

Railway officials told TOI there were chances of multiple train cancellations on the weekend to prevent crowd crush. "There is a possibility that only local trains will run on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The crowd is expected to increase as the Mahakumbh is going to be over soon. Passengers who have reservations are suggested to check the train status before arriving at the station," said a senior official.

According to RPF personnel, there is usually no crowding at the station, though the rush during the weekends is higher. For now, railway cops are working for 12 hours at a stretch, putting an additional 4 hours for better crowd management.

"There are around 15 more RPF officials deployed at Ghaziabad railway station for Maha Kumbh. The shift hours of these officials have made 12 hours a day. Every train is inspected, and constant announcements are made. On Saturday, there was a rush at Ghaziabad railway station like New Delhi Railway Station, however, it was controlled," RPF inspector (Ghaziabad Railway station) Yashwant Singh said.

Generally, there are 12-14 RPF personnel on the platforms, but on weekends the deployment is higher.

On Tuesday afternoon, 10-12 RPF personnel were deployed on platform 2 as the crowd swelled towards the afternoon. By evening, the crowd had thinned on the platform.

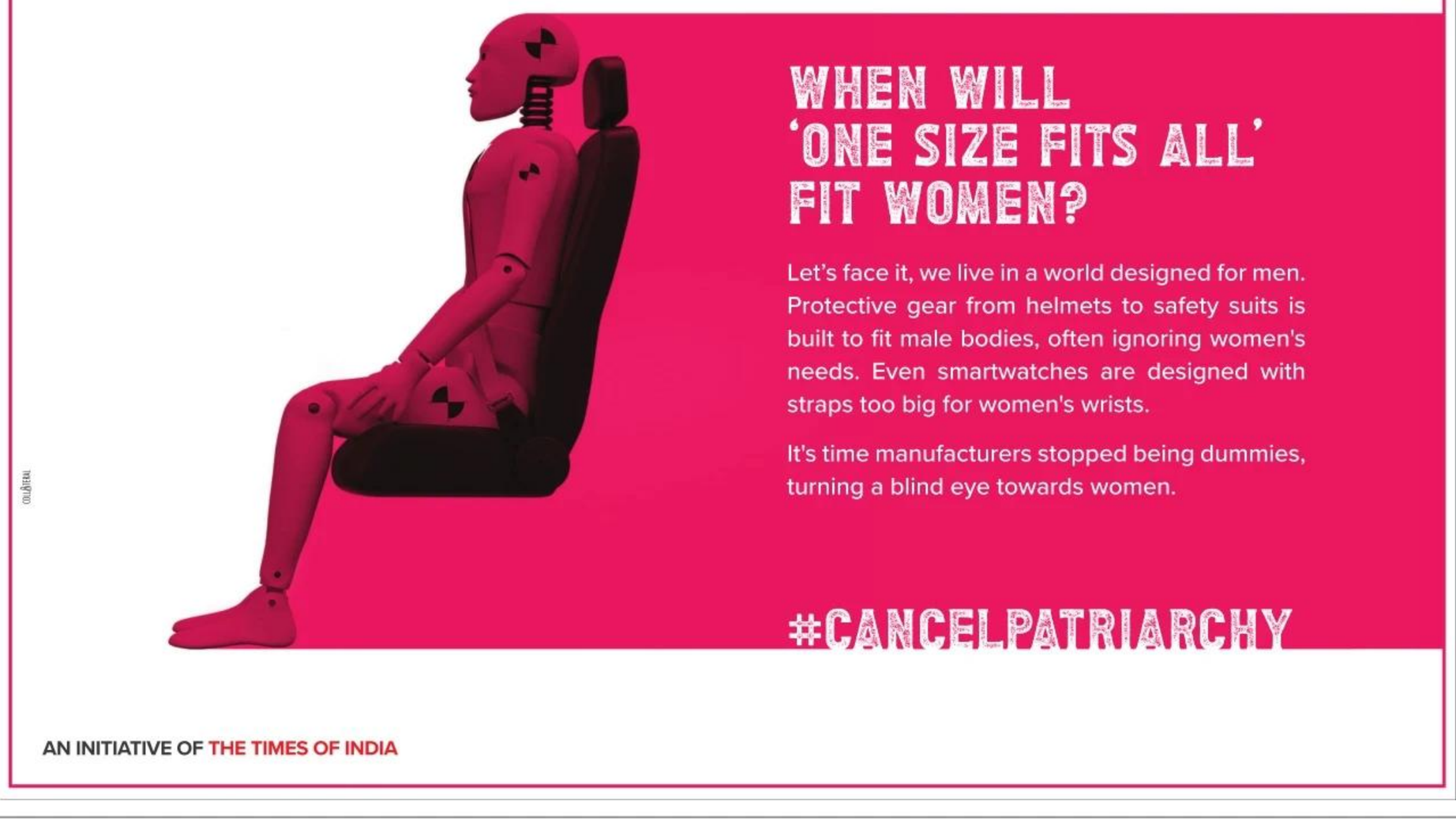
Dikshit told to re-file plea against Atishi

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit to re-file his defamation suit against AAP leaders Atishi and Sanjay Singh if he so wanted, as it refused to grant him further time to deposit court fees in support of his case.

The court took note of the fact that the Congress leader failed to pay the court fees in full and refused to entertain his plea further.

Dikshit, who was the party;s candidate for New Delhi constituency, filed civil and criminal defamation lawsuits against Atishi and Singh, among other AAP members. These stem from allegations levelled by the two AAP leaders during a press conference in Dec last year that Dikshit accepted "crores of rupees" from BJP and conspired with the party to sabotage AAP's chances in Delhi assembly elections.

Dikshit, who denied these allegations, had termed them baseless and defamatory. He sought Rs 10 crore in damages for the harm caused to his reputation. Meanwhile, in the criminal defamation case, a Rouse Avenue court earlier issued notices to Atishi and Singh. Dikshit accused the two of making unsubstantiated defamatory statements during their press conference. TNN


WHEN WILL
'ONE SIZE FITS ALL'
FIT WOMEN?
Let's face it, we live in a world designed for men. Protective gear from helmets to safety suits is built to fit male bodies, often ignoring women's needs. Even smartwatches are designed with straps too big for women's wrists.
It's time manufacturers stopped being dummies, turning a blind eye towards women.
#CANCELPATRIARCHY
AN INITIATIVE OF THE TIMES OF INDIA

Class II student assaulted by safai worker

New Delhi: A Class II student was allegedly sexually assaulted by a sanitation worker in a school in West Delhi. The suspect has been arrested.

Police sources said the girl had remained quiet for a few days, prompting her parents to ask her what was wrong. The minor then spoke about the incident and police was informed.

Police have found out that the man had allegedly threatened the girl with harm if she spoke out. The police have registered a case under the POCSO Act.

Delhi Police data shows that 101 rape and POCSO cases were reported in Jan. In Jan 2024, there were 134 such cases reported. TNN

Case filed over cutting of 4 trees in SE Delhi

New Delhi: Delhi Police has registered a case based on a complaint of a forest officer about the alleged cutting of four trees near Sarai Kale Khan in southeast Delhi. The complaint was filed by the deputy conservator of forests (south), who claimed that the department received information about the alleged cutting and damage of trees near Sarai Kale Khan Gurdwara in Sidharth Nagar. TNN

BBA student crashes Audi into scooter, teen among 2 injured

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 20-year-old youth and his teenaged nephew were injured late on Monday when their scooter collided with an Audi luxury car being driven by a BBA student in south Delhi's Jorbagh. The driver was arrested and later released on bail, police said on Tuesday.

The victims are residents of Lodhi Colony. According to police, the youngsters were returning home from Gol Market when the accident happened. While one of them sustained leg injuries and is reported to be stable, the other remains in a critical condition at AIIMS Trauma Centre.

Police said they received a police control room alert about the incident around 11.45pm on Monday. "The collision took place near Jorbagh post office, when a speeding red Audi hit a scooter before crashing into a tree. Both the vehicles sustained extensive damage," said a police officer.

Investigation revealed that the driver was accompanied by a friend at the time of incident. The car is registered in the name of his father. "The student accused of hitting the scooter and his friend were returning to their Rajendra Nagar residence. The car was being driven at a high speed and the driver lost control," the officer added.

However, the car occupants helped transport the injured to a hospital after the accident, according to cops.

The victims are residents of Lodhi Colony. While one of them sustained leg injuries and is reported to be stable, the other remains in a critical condition at AIIMS Trauma Centre

A case under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita's sections 281 (rash driving or riding on a public way) and 125 (act endangering life or personal safety of others) has been registered against the driver at Lodhi Colony police station. Both the damaged car and the scooter have been seized by police. The blood samples of the two occupants of the vehicle have also been sent for a blood alcohol test. "We are examining CCTV footage from cameras installed near the accident site for clues to other aspects of the incident," an officer said.

ANI

MANGLED REMAINS

PWD starts repair work on Ring Road stretch

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New Delhi: The Public Works Department has started the repair of Ring Road between the Bhairon Marg intersection and the sundial near the Barapullah elevated road. The work was approved in Dec and now the surface of the road opposite Millennium Park will be scraped off for a fresh layer of bitumen will be applied. This is all good, but there are unforeseen problems for motorists using the road.

For one, there are no warning signs alerting drivers about the ongoing repairs. The road suddenly becomes unpaved and a cloud of dust hovers over the section. Both on Monday and Tuesday, **TOI** noticed no water sprinklers being used to settle the dust. This is despite PWD having specified in the tender paper that dust control measures and environmental protection norms were mandatory at the work site.

"We are constantly trying to reduce the dust being generated on the road because the work involves road milling, which is first scraping off the upper layer of the road surface and then applying a fresh layer," said a PWD official. "But sprinkling water on the surface makes it difficult for the bitumen material to adhere and also increases the chances of skidding of vehicles. That is why we have to avoid water at the spot."

"I travel on this route daily to my home and it has become very risky driving for us two-wheeler users because there is no lighting and no warning signboards," said a resident of Noida Sector 18 who works in central Delhi. This is an important route for people travelling between the Sarai Kale Khan and Kashmere Gate bus terminals. The Millennium bus depot once also used to connect with the Delhi-Meerut expressway, providing a passage to Noida and Ghaziabad.

Jatin Kumar

Dust on road during construction work at Sarai Kale Khan

According to PWD officials, mechanised road sweeping is being done on the stretch to check the dust and gravel generated by the repair work. The route is always busy, even during the night when trucks and buses crowd the road.

Repairs could only start now despite the December approval because of the model code of conduct imposed after assembly elections were announced. PWD also plans to take up similar repairs of degraded roads in other parts of the city. Last year, it had planned to take up the repair of roads based on the instructions of the then CM and ministers, who inspected certain areas in this regard.

No leniency to convict for 'digital rape' of 2-yr-old

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Refusing to be convinced by the argument of the defence counsel that a long-term prison sentence would not lead to the reformation of the offender, the court said, sentencing is about achieving the right balance between the crime and punishment, and the elements at play are the crime, the offender, and the interests of society

New Delhi: A Delhi court, while sentencing a man to 25 years of rigorous imprisonment for committing aggravated sexual assault on a two-year-old girl in 2021, ruled that no lenient view could be taken on the plea that it was a case of digital penetration and not penile-vaginal penetration.

The court of Additional Sessions Judge Babita Puniya (POCSO) rejected the submissions of the defence counsel, who argued that since it was a case of digital penetration and not penile-vaginal penetration, a lenient view should be taken while imposing the sentence. The judge stated, "I do not agree. The legislature has not made any distinction between digital penetration and penile penetration. Penetration, as per rape law, can be penile/vaginal, penile/oral, penile/anal, object or finger/vaginal, and object or finger/anal penetration. Thus, in my considered view, this is not a mitigating factor in his favour."

The court also refused to consider chronological age, being a first-time offender, being under the influence of alcohol, and being illiterate/uneducated as mitigating factors while sentencing the convicted man.

The court convicted the man on Jan 17, 2025, for the offence punishable under section 6 (aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the POCSO Act as well as under section 342 (punishment for wrongful confinement)/376-AB (punishment for rape on a woman under 12 years of age) IPC.

Sharawan Kumar Bishnoi, special public prosecutor, urged for the maximum punishment and submitted before the court that the sentences imposed should send a clear message to potential offenders that these offences would not be tolerated in our society. He asserted that considering the nature of the offence, wherein a girl child, aged about two years, was sexually assaulted by a fully-grown man, the question of showing any leniency was not warranted.

Refusing to be convinced by the argument of the defence counsel that a long-term prison sentence would not lead to the reformation and rehabilitation of the offender, the court said, sentencing is about achieving the right balance between the crime and punishment, and the elements at play are the crime, the offender, and the interests of society.

The court stated, "After these cases, certain amendments were made in the existing law. However, a court must not be swayed by the emotions of society, ignoring the principles laid down by the Supreme Court. Thus, this court will approach the sentencing of the convict on the basis that it is in the interest of justice that crime should be punished and that such punishment should be proportionate to the gravity of the offence since excessive punishment does not serve the interest of justice nor those of society."

The court awarded compensation of Rs 13.5 lakh to the victim.

Sentencing the convict, the court remarked, "This will provide just retribution and adequate protection to society, make the convict realise the gravity of his act, while also leaving scope for rehabilitation."

Who Will Be CM? BJP MLAs To Meet Today At Delhi HQ

Melodious Recital To Kick Off Tomorrow's Oath-Taking Event

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@timesofindia.com

Piyal Bhattacharjee

Preparations underway for the oath ceremony at Ramlila Maidan

New Delhi: Following its decisive victory in the recently held assembly elections, BJP is preparing to hold the swearing-in ceremony at the iconic Ramlila Maidan on Thursday, which is expected to be attended by PM Narendra Modi and several top BJP functionaries.

As part of the grand celebration, a melodious recital to entertain the gathering will be held ahead of the oath. The event is also likely to see a substantial participation from slum-dwellers and several women who stand to benefit from BJP's Mahila Samriddhi Yojna.

A senior BJP functionary said, "There will be representation from all states at the swearing-in ceremony. It will be either CM or deputy CM from the state." Union ministers present in Delhi will also be in attendance, he added.

He said that several senior functionaries from NDA alliance partners will be present for the ceremony, which will be witnessed by more than 50,000 people.

"A small musical performance will be held as many people will arrive early. It will keep them entertained before the actual event the swearing-in starts," the functionary said.

He said that people from the middle class, affluent sections as well as those living in jhuggis supported the party in large numbers in the polls, and so did women. "We are getting demands from many to attend the function, so we kept it at Ramlila Maidan as it has a large space," he added.

On Tuesday, BJP functionary Tarun Chugh, state unit chief Virendra Sachdeva and former mayor Jai Prakash spent several hours taking stock of the preparations at the ground and reviewing the arrangements.

All BJP MLAs and the seven Delhi MPs will meet on Wednesday at the headquarters on Pant Marg to pick the legislature party leader. "The leader, once elected, will meet LG and stake claim to form the govt," said the functionary.

Sources said the party is likely to appoint central observers by early Wednesday morning.

Meanwhile, taking a dig at BJP, AAP MLA Gopal Rai said even though it had "set up its tent and stage", it was still "roaming without a groom" in Delhi, referring to the saffron party not naming its CM pick yet.

Hitting back, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said despite being rejected by the public due to their "corrupt misgovernance and anarchic administration", AAP functionaries had quickly reverted to their "rude behaviour" in just a few days.

"Rai has been excessively worried about BJP's chief ministerial candidate for the past two days. Instead, it would be more appropriate for him to inform the people of Delhi about the leader of their legislative party, which is the Leader of the Opposition," said Sachdeva.

SC: How much cost should we impose for occupation of Lodhi-era structure?

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Defence Colony Welfare Association to explain how much costs should be imposed on it for the unauthorised occupation of Lodhi-era monument "Gumti of Shaikh Ali" for over six decades.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Ahsanuddin Amanullah directed the association to file an affidavit within three weeks while censuring its "illegal" occupation of the 700-year-old Lodhi-era tomb in Delhi.

The bench directed Delhi's archaeology department to constitute a committee for the restoration of the monument.

The court was informed that the possession of "Gumti of Shaikh Ali" was handed over to the Land And Development Office from DCWA in presence of senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, who was appointed as the court commissioner.

The bench previously directed for a "peaceful" handover of the site's possession to the Land And Development Office.

The bench had passed the order after perusing a report filed by Swapna Liddle, who is ex-convener of the Delhi chapter of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage.

The bench in November 2024, pulled up the ASI for failing to protect the monument in Defence Colony with the CBI flagging a resident welfare association was using the 15th century structure as its office. PTI

1984 riots case: Prosecution seeks death penalty for Sajjan

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File Photo

The court on Feb 12 convicted Sajjan Kumar of the murder of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarundeep Singh in 1984

New Delhi: The prosecution on Tuesday sought the death penalty for former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar in a case related to the murder of a father and son during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, terming the case the "rarest of rare".

The prosecution, led by additional public prosecutor Manish Rawat, in a written submission to the court, said that incidents of this kind break the "entire fibre of trust and harmony among communities severely."

These riots led to largescale migration of people from the Sikh community, severely prejudicing their lives and livelihoods, Rawat wrote.

The court of special judge Kaveri Baweja on Feb 12 convicted Kumar as guilty of the murder of Jaswant Singh and his son Tarundeep Singh. The court will hear the matter on Feb 21.

Rawat said: "The murders of Jaswant Singh and Tarundeep Singh were committed in an extremely brutal, diabolical manner so as to shock the collective conscience of society. The impact on the psychology of the survivor victims, i.e., PW11, PW12, and PW13 (the three main prosecution witnesses), can be seen from their demeanour, recorded during their testimonies.... Even after 39 years, they were inconsolably weeping. Serious bodily and mental harm were caused to such women. Physical destruction of their properties was caused. The victims had to leave their place of residence. There was forced and traumatised displacement of all survivor victims."

Stating that Kumar, along with the mob, had targeted a particular community without any provocation, Rawat said that the impact and magnitude of the crime was so enormous in proportion that the offence committed was a crime against a community and involved genocide of the members of a particular community.

"The accused was a people's representative as he was the MP of that area, and instead of helping the helpless people, he openly broke the rule of law. The accused was such a powerful person that he escaped the process of law from 1984 to 2016. It was only in 2016 that the govt constituted an SIT and the statements of witnesses were properly recorded. The survivors got justice 41 years after the incident," the prosecution submitted.

The prosecution said that the case was graver than the Nirbhaya case, as in the Nirbhaya case, a young woman was targeted, but in the present case, people of a particular community were targeted. "Upon taking view of all the circumstances and in the light of guidelines framed by the hon'ble Supreme Court, it is submitted that the case is fit for giving the death sentence to accused Sajjan Kumar," it said.

NDMC cracks down on property tax defaulters, issues 3,200 notices

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New Delhi: The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) identified around 3,200 defaulters who did not pay property tax amounting to about Rs 200 crore in the last three years (post-Covid) and served them notices. This initiative is part of efforts to enhance property tax collection during the current financial year. NDMC aims to collect Rs 1,150 crore from property tax in 2024-25, compared to Rs 1,030 crore collected in 2023-24.

"With data available for the past three years across all categories, we decided to assess property status and identify defaulters. It was found that at least 3,200 taxpayers have not paid their taxes for three consecutive years despite repeated notices. As a result, we have served them reminders and show-cause notices, urging them to pay their legitimate dues immediately, or face coercive action," said an NDMC official.

Under NDMC regulations, a 30-day show cause notice is issued to defaulters, followed by additional reminders. If there is no response or payment within the 30-day period, the council may take action, such as property attachment, sealing, or account attachment.

"We recently served show cause notices to about 380 taxpayers, offering them a 30-day period to make payments and avoid further action. These cases involved taxpayers who raised objections to the ex-parte property tax assessments made by NDMC over previous years. After reviewing their objections and rectifying the assessments, revised demands were raised. However, these 380 taxpayers still failed to make payments, prompting us to take action," the official added.

"We can withdraw the revised assessment details and take other actions if they fail to reply or pay dues in 30 days," stated the official.

NDMC oversees about 15,600 properties in its jurisdiction, including approximately 1,600 govt properties and around 14,000 private ones. Of these, 1,000 properties are exempt from taxation. As of mid-Feb 2024-25, Rs 735 crore has been collected from 9,600 taxable properties, with the tax submission deadline for the financial year set for Mar 31. Unlike the MCD, where taxpayers conduct self-assessments, NDMC's department calculates taxes based on property records and ground surveys.

Taxpayers are invited to review the assessment list and raise objections either online or in person. If objections are raised, a revised assessment is carried out based on the facts submitted. To support taxpayers, NDMC is organising meetings with market associations, RWAs, and government agencies, and is sending property tax inspectors to residential areas for on-site collection. The council is also addressing outstanding payments, especially for government agencies where dues have been pending for an extended period.

Prez grants sanction for Jain's prosecution

Times News Network

Satyendar Jain

New Delhi: Prosecution proceedings against former Delhi health minister Satyendar Jain in a money laundering case may accelerate as the President on Tuesday granted sanction to a request from the home ministry.

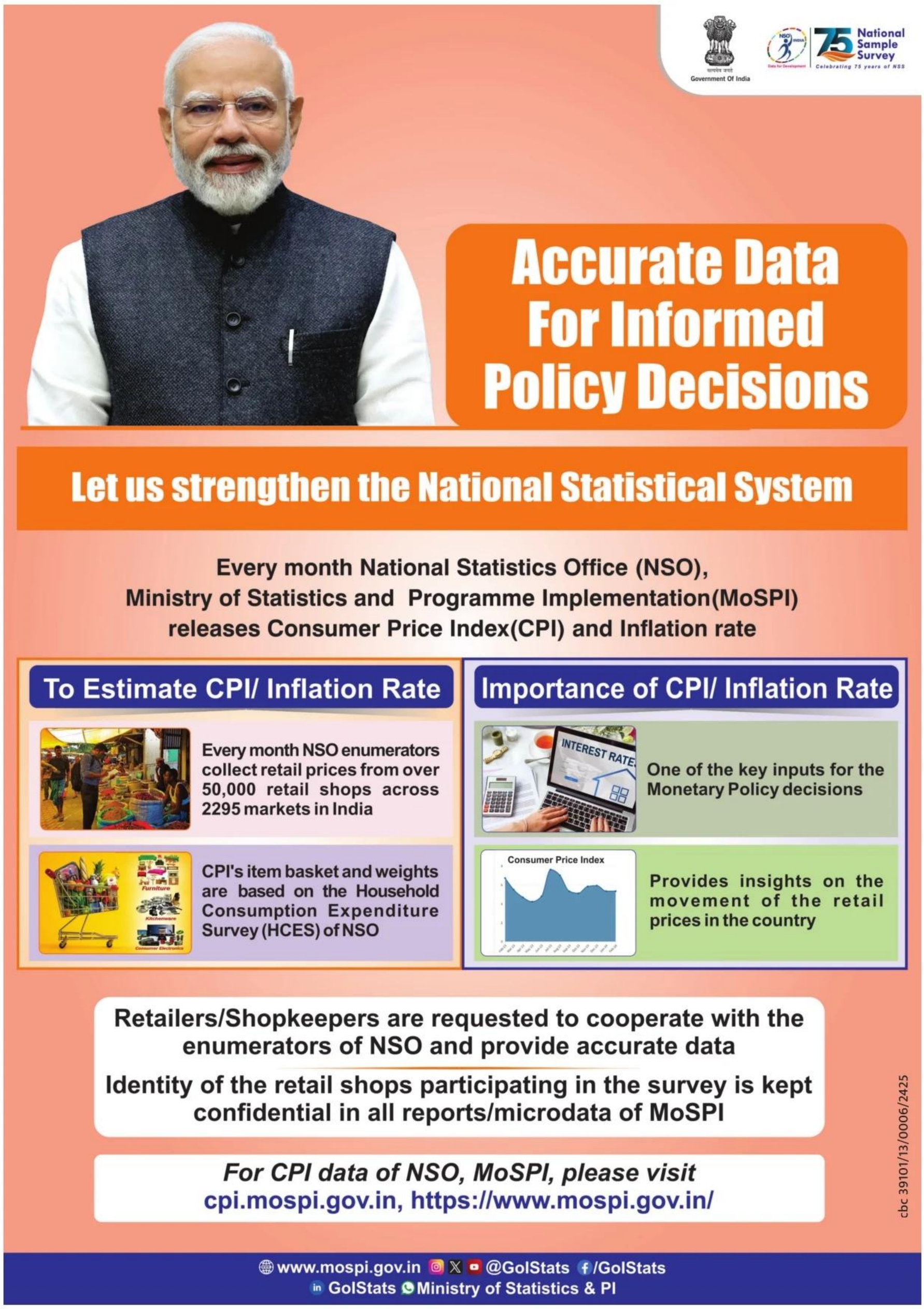
Earlier, the home ministry had given its sanction to the Enforcement Directorate to prosecute Jain in the case, in which the agency accused him of acquiring more than 123 acres of agricultural land in villages north-west of Delhi through shell companies, controlled by him and his family members.

This is the second such permission granted by the MHA to the central agency after a similar sanction was issued to prosecute former Delhi CM and AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal in the excise policy scam case.

Obtaining sanction from the home ministry to prosecute public servants under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) has become mandatory after the Supreme Court's directive last year, which required the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to seek separate permission to prosecute public servants, as applicable under the CrPC for other agencies. The ED earlier relied upon the sanction taken by the CBI or any other agency registering a predicate offence.

The permission to prosecute Jain was earlier taken by the CBI, which had registered the predicate offence under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

Jain had also faced investigation from the Income Tax department which had found five shell companies linked to him had received "accommodation entries" from Kolkata-based hawala operators in return for cash and commission given to them. These accusations were also later found part of the chargesheets filed by the agencies.


Government Of India
National Sample Survey
Celebrating 75 years of NSS
Accurate Data For Informed Policy Decisions
Let us strengthen the National Statistical System
Every month National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation(MoSPI) releases Consumer Price Index(CPI) and Inflation rate
To Estimate CPI/ Inflation Rate
Every month NSO enumerators collect retail prices from over 50,000 retail shops across 2295 markets in India
CPI's item basket and weights are based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) of NSO
Importance of CPI/ Inflation Rate
INTEREST RATE
One of the key inputs for the Monetary Policy decisions
Consumer Price Index
Provides insights on the movement of the retail prices in the country
Retailers/Shopkeepers are requested to cooperate with the enumerators of NSO and provide accurate data
Identity of the retail shops participating in the survey is kept confidential in all reports/microdata of MoSPI
For CPI data of NSO, MoSPI, please visit
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6.5 lakh euros swindled: CBI busts cybercrime network targeting German nationals, one held

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) blew the lid off an international cybercrime syndicate that swindled around 6.5 lakh euros from German nationals using a clever ruse of fake tech support services to drain their digital wallets.

The agency arrested a key suspect, identified as Rahul Shaw, and is conducting raids in Delhi and other places to nab others involved. Shaw was produced at Rouse Avenue Court for remand. The CBI also dismantled an illegal call centre being run by the accused, recovering 24 hard disks containing incriminating digital evidence.

The sophisticated virtual asset-supported cybercrime network targeted German nationals since 2021. According to an agency spokesperson, the operation, code-named Chakra-IV, was executed in close coordination with German law enforcement authorities. The CBI registered a case on Feb 12 against four accused individuals, including Shaw, under various sections of the IPC and the IT Act 2000.

Probe revealed that the accused allegedly gained unauthorised access to German victims' computer systems and bank accounts, claiming their funds were at risk and manipulating them into transferring euros to cryptocurrency. The transfer was done in wallets controlled by the accused.

Extensive searches were conducted by the CBI at six locations across Delhi, Kolkata, and Siliguri between Feb 14 and 17, yielding substantial incriminating evidence.

Shaw, a key accused, was arrested from Siliguri and is being produced before the court. Raids are ongoing to identify the proceeds of crime, and investigations into the broader network and international leads are being pursued, the agency said.

The scammers, posing as representatives of reputed global firms, employed social engineering tactics to gain the trust of victims. They made calls through VOIP, claiming that the victim's computer was compromised. The scammers then leveraged remote access to the victim's computer, creating a false narrative of resolving the purported issue.

₹10,000 Parking Fine: Car Biz On MCD Radar

Crackdown On Vehicles Meant For Hire/Sale

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MCD has created a new category called 'vehicle showrooms, including the ones dealing in sale or hire of used cars', through an order issued by the Central Licensing and Enforcement Cell. It outlines the updated penalties for vehicles and hawkers occupying public roads or land

New Delhi: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has introduced a Rs 10,000 fine and a separate category to curb the illegal parking of second-hand cars by car showrooms as well as rental businesses on public roads.

The separate category is called the "vehicle showrooms, including the ones dealing in sale or hire of used cars". "This new category was added through an order issued by the Central Licensing and Enforcement Cell on Feb 10. It outlines the updated penalties for vehicles and hawkers occupying public roads or land," an official said.

"We will impose a composition fee of Rs 10,000, plus removal and storage charges for each vehicle belonging to a showroom and found parked on a road illegally on public land," he said.

The Rs 10,000 will be the fine that will be levied on the business entity, which will also pay storage and removal charges for each vehicle.

MCD levies composition fees to penalise encroachment of public spaces. "It was seen that parking of second-hand cars for sale or purchase on roads has become a major source of nuisance and residents often complained about the problems they faced due to the vehicles parked for resale in large numbers on the road," the official said.

The revision is an update of the July 19, 2023, order issued by the department.

The MCD has also simplified the storage fee structure for private vehicles in the revised order.

Earlier, the charges were based on the weight of the vehicles or goods — Rs 200 per quintal per day for vehicles exceeding one quintal and Rs 100 per day for those under one quintal.

Now, the MCD established categories and fixed rates for private cars and two-wheelers. "The storage charges for two-wheelers and e-rickshaws will be Rs 500 per day, for light passenger vehicles — car, jeep, van — it will be Rs 1,000 per day. For light goods vehicles, the storage charges will be Rs 2,000 per day, for medium passenger vehicles, heavy passenger vehicles, medium goods vehicles and heavy goods vehicles, the rate will be Rs 4,000 per day, and for multi-axle trailers, the charge will be Rs 8,000 per day," the order said.

Given this categorisation, a car such as a WagonR (weigh around 850 kg), which used to be charged Rs 1,600 a day for storage, will now be charged Rs 1,000 a day. But, so will an SUV such as a Scorpio (weight around 1,920 kg). Earlier for such an SUV, the charge was Rs 3,800.

"There have been instances when the penalty amount was much more than the cost of a private vehicle if it was lying unattended in the MCD storage house for a long time. This led to litigation between the MCD and vehicle owners. To avoid this, we have simplified the rates," the official added. In the revised order, a separate category of "goods other than vehicles" has also been made.

For storage of loads of 1 quintal and more, the penalty will be Rs 200 per day, and for loads less than 1 quintal, it is Rs 100 per day.

Under the revised structure, the composition fee will range from Rs 600 for hawkers and squatters to Rs 15,000 for water trolleys, similar to the rates in 2023 order.

The removal charges will vary based on weight. The rates are in four slabs — from Rs 300 for loads up to 40kg to Rs 2,000 for loads above 5 quintals.

Prithviraj Lane repairs to take 2-3 more days

New Delhi: Four days after a cave-in of a portion of Prithviraj Lane, opposite Lok Nayak Bhawan, the area was barricaded as the sunken portion was not yet filled. Officials said the repair would require two or three days more. The cave-in, near Khan Market, on Saturday was due to a leakage in an unfiltered underground water pipeline. "We immediately informed CPED to repair the line on Saturday. Once CPWD does the repairs, we will be able to recarpet the road," an NDMC source said.

A CPWD official said the agency had repaired the damaged pipeline but the section was under observation. "We will wait till Wednesday morning. If no leakage is reported, we will fill the caved-in portion," the official said. After this, it will take a day or two to reconstruct the patch. TNN

School doors may open for Rohingya kids

Meghna.Dhulia @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A recent statement by Supreme Court, made during a hearing on a petition seeking access to public schools and hospitals for the children of Rohingya refugees in Delhi, has brought hope to many parents.

On Monday, the apex court stated that if admission was denied to these children despite eligibility, they were free to approach Delhi High Court. Earlier, on another petition, the court stressed that no child should face discrimination in education, addressing a long-standing issue.

A parent pointed out that this could be "an end to the discrimination" they faced. Another said they were trying to get their child admitted for years, but were always "turned away without any logical reason".

Lawyer and education activist Ashok Agarwal said it was an order that would benefit many children. "This order means that schools will now not be able to deny admission to these children. A strange situation was created where govt was also passing orders against them, and authorities were not listening. But this order will wash out all that. We will soon go to schools and submit their applications," he said.

Agarwal added, "Denying admission to these children is against the spirit of RTE Act. It's inhumane and anti-child. If children are on our land, we should not deny them education."

In Dec, Delhi govt directed schools to prevent the enrolment of children from "illegal Bangladeshi migrant" families. In Nov, a civil rights group submitted a letter to the Union home ministry after several Myanmar Rohingya refugee children, living in Sri Ram Colony near Khajoori Khas Chowk, were allegedly denied admission to a nearby govt school due to the lack of certain documents, such as Aadhaar cards. Despite possessing refugee cards issued by United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, these children were turned away. A teacher from a govt school in northeast Delhi explained, "Under RTE Act, we cannot deny admission to any child. We aren't authorised to determine if someone is an illegal migrant. While we request documents like voter IDs, Aadhaar cards, ration cards and birth certificates, many migrant children lack them. In such cases, we offer provisional admission."

Civil rights group Social Jurist first filed a PIL in Delhi High Court highlighting the alleged "unlawful actions" of Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

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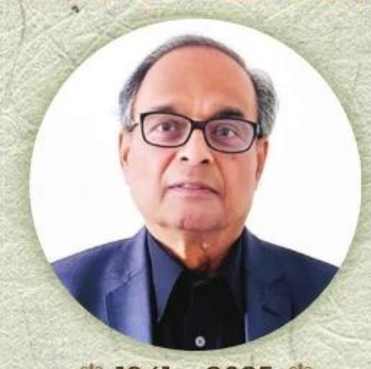

1941 ~ 2025

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of

Shri Krishna Murari Gupta

our Founder and Chairman on Sunday, 16th February 2025. A true pioneer, he built and led multiple successful businesses across nations, shaping the Optical industry with his vision, innovation, and relentless pursuit of excellence. His legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

Prayer Meeting (Uthavni) will take place on

Wednesday, 19th February, From 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

At Sports & Cultural Club, Sector 15A, Noida - 201301

IN GRIEF

Wife: Smt. Usha Gupta
Son: Aditya & Nidhi Gupta
Son: Vivek & Kanika Gupta
Beloved grandchildren: Rhea, Abhinav, Devina, Vivaan & Aarna Gupta.

Management, staff team & Associates of GKB family
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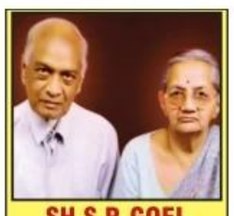
OBITUARY

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

ੴ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ
58th Death Anniversary

SDN. SURJIT KAUR
S. WARYAM SINGH
My Revered Parents, left for heavenly abode on 01.02.1967 & 19.02.1967
Fondly Remembered by:
Hardayal Singh Hardi (Advocate), Ch. No. 150, Western Wing
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi- 54
Res:10 A, Prem Shanti Kunj, 2 Club Road Civil Lines, Delhi
M: 9971860332
Ph: 23830867, 43720735

REMEMBRANCES



SH S.P. GOEL
(01.07.1922 - 19.02.2014)
SMT PRAKASH GOEL
(13.03.1930 - 15.10.2020)
पापाजी और अम्माजी
Forever in our Heart and Soul
Pushpa & Pradeep Goel, Neha & Ravi, Richa & Puneet Aarush, Naomika and Raunav
F-11A(G-8 Area) Hari Kunj, Hari Nagar, New Delhi - 64
Ph: 9810155141

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Call : Vinod : 9958992088

In fond memory of

Prem Chand Jain
(14.11.1939 - 17.02.2025)

Even as we celebrate a life well lived,
we are sad to announce the loss of our father who leaves behind:

Bereaved Wife: Saroj Jain
Son and Daughter-in-law: Manoj & Seema Jain
Daughter & Son-in-law: Ritu & Samir Jain
Daughter: Meetu Jain
Grandchildren: Dhruv, Ira, Aditi
Grieving family and friends

UTHAONI
will be held on
Thursday, 20th February, 2025, 11AM to 12PM
at Shri Satya Sai Auditorium, Lodhi Rd, Pragati Vihar, New Delhi.

In Fond Remembrance of
Smt. Kamla Yadav
14/01/1940 - 19/02/1994

You were Love personified those remarkable memories of you will sure bring back a smile,
If only we all could have you back for just a little while.
That you are no longer here with us is the Reality yet you will remain in our hearts forever is the truth.

Fondly Remembered & Deeply Missed by
RAMPRASTHA
Ch. Balwant Singh
Sandeep, Monia, Anjuu, Nohar, Siya & Avyaan

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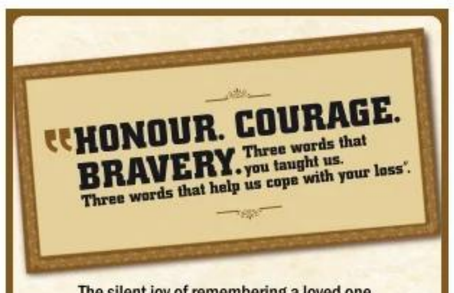
Pankaj : 8130604727

REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES

On 14th death anniversary
Sh. Ashok Kumar Mittal
(19.12.1947-19.02.2011)
You shall be forever in our hearts. Deeply Remembered by Geeta Mittal (Wife) Ajay & Anamicka Mittal (Son & D-in-Law) Kushaagra & Priyaansh (Grandsons) Ayam Design & Exhibits, 863-B, G.T. Road, Shahdra.

In Loving Memory of
SMT. ASHA JOSHI
07.07.1954-19.02.2017
We have lost the most precious jewel of our life Not a single moment passes when ur absence is not felt. Miss ur Love & Guidance. Missed by: Dr PP Joshi, Swati, Sandeep,Saurabh, Himanshi,Gaurav,Meera



The silent joy of remembering a loved one.
The moments you shared together.
Little moments that make life beautiful.
Share them. With Friends. Relatives. Neighbours. Colleagues. With all those whose lives the departed Soul has touched. Because while life goes on, when you share memories, they stay on forever.

Publications	Total Outlay
The Times of India Delhi/NCR	5,600
TOI+NBT (Delhi/NCR)	8,800
TOI+ET (Delhi/NCR)	6,600

Maximum 10 lines

SPACE FOR PHOTO

REMEMBRANCE
SHARING MEMORIES

For any information call
Vinod : 9958992088
Pankaj : 8130604727

'Be not afraid, only believe.' -Thus Spake Christ

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Fuelling India's Economic Boom

MADHYA PRADESH

Dr. Mohan Yadav
CM, Madhya Pradesh

INVEST MADHYA PRADESH GLOBAL INVESTORS SUMMIT
INFINITE POSSIBILITIES
24 & 25 FEBRUARY 2025, BHOPAL

LEADING INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY REVOLUTION

MADHYA PRADESH IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF INDIA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY REVOLUTION, EMERGING AS A KEY PLAYER IN SOLAR, WIND, AND HYDROPOWER GENERATION

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Madhya Pradesh is emerging as a powerhouse in India's renewable energy landscape, making remarkable strides toward sustainability. With its strategic initiatives, ambitious capacity expansion plans, and pioneering projects, the state is setting new benchmarks for clean energy adoption. From large-scale solar parks to innovative floating solar plants, Madhya Pradesh is leveraging its vast potential to contribute significantly to India's green energy transition.

INDIA'S CLEAN ENERGY VISION AND MADHYA PRADESH'S ROLE

India is making significant progress towards its goal of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel-based energy by 2030. With over 42 per cent of the nation's energy capacity now derived from non-fossil fuel sources, the country is fast-tracking its shift towards renewables. Solar energy, in particular, has seen exponential growth, with installed capacity soaring from 2.5 GW in 2014 to 94.16 GW by late 2024. Government policies such as 100 per cent FDI in renewable energy projects, solar park development, and Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiatives are accelerating this transformation.

Madhya Pradesh plays a crucial role in this movement, leveraging its vast solar and wind energy potential to push the envelope on sustainable energy development.

KEY MILESTONES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

- **Fourth in solar energy contribution:** Madhya Pradesh ranks fourth in India, contributing 8.2 per cent to the nation's total solar energy output.
- **Rewa Solar Park:** One of the world's largest single-site solar plants (750 MW) that currently powers the Delhi Metro.
- **Omkareshwar Floating Solar Plant:** India's largest floating solar project harnesses hydro-reservoirs for clean energy generation.
- **Sanchi – India's first solar city:** A pioneering step towards self-sustained green energy solutions.
- **Pumped storage project in Neemuch:** The country's largest project, integrating 7,000 MW of renewable energy.
- **Power and renewable energy manufacturing zone:** A state-of-the-art facility in Mohasa Babai, covering 884 acres to boost domestic manufacturing

A DECADE OF GROWTH IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

Madhya Pradesh has witnessed a dramatic expansion in its renewable energy capacity over the past decade. The state's solar energy generation capacity has surged from just 37 MW in 2012 to an impressive 3,308 MW by 2024. Wind energy has also seen exponential growth, increasing from 324 MW to 2,880 MW in the same period. These achievements underscore the state's commitment to reducing its reliance on fossil fuels.

SOLAR PARKS: DRIVING RENEWABLE ENERGY ADOPTION

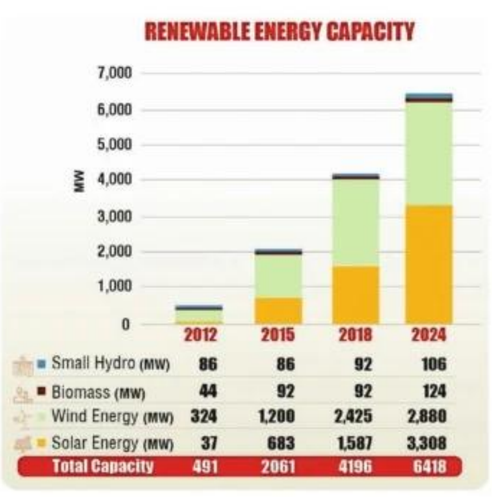
The state has taken a proactive approach in establishing large-scale solar parks, which play a pivotal role in clean energy expansion.

- **Rewa Solar Park (750 MW):** A flagship project setting new standards for cost-efficient solar energy.
- **Neemuch Solar Project:** Achieved a record-low tariff of Rs 2.15 per kWh in December 2024, making solar power more affordable.
- **Morena Hybrid Park:** Madhya Pradesh's first battery energy storage-based solar park, ensuring a stable and uninterrupted power supply.

FUTURE ROADMAP: EXPANDING GREEN ENERGY HORIZONS

Madhya Pradesh has set ambitious targets for the future, aiming to achieve a renewable energy capacity of 53,825 MW by FY35. This includes massive investments in solar, wind and storage solutions. Storage capacity alone is projected to increase from 4,852 MW by FY25 to 11,943 MW by FY35, ensuring grid stability and energy reliability.

RENEWABLE ENERGY CAPACITY



	2012	2015	2018	2024
Small Hydro (MW)	86	86	92	106
Biomass (MW)	44	92	92	124
Wind Energy (MW)	324	1,200	2,425	2,880
Solar Energy (MW)	37	683	1,587	3,308
Total Capacity	491	2061	4196	6418

A MAGNET FOR GREEN INVESTMENTS

Madhya Pradesh has positioned itself as an attractive investment destination with its investor-friendly policies, transparent governance, and ease of doing business (EODB). Recognised in the "Top Achievers" category in the EODB rankings by DPIIT, the state has implemented key reforms such as the 'Start Your Business in 30 Days' initiative to facilitate industrial growth.

Major industry players such as Suzlon, Tata Power, Renew, Inox Wind, Greenko, NTPC, NHDC, O2, Insolation, Shakti, Grew Energy, Saatvik and Landsmill Green Energy are actively investing in the region, further boosting economic development and job creation.

MEGA PROJECTS SHAPING THE FUTURE

Several large-scale renewable energy projects are in the pipeline, further strengthening Madhya Pradesh's position as a leader in the sector:

- **Sagar and Dhar solar parks:** Each with a capacity of 300 MW.
- **Wind energy expansion:** 3,000 MW across Agar, Dhar, Mandsaur and Ratlam.
- **Floating solar power initiatives:** Harnessing reservoirs to maximise solar energy potential.

GLOBAL INVESTORS SUMMIT 2025: ACCELERATING RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENT

The upcoming 'Invest Madhya Pradesh - Global Investors Summit 2025' will serve as a crucial platform for advancing the state's renewable energy agenda. Scheduled for February 24, 2025, this summit will bring together industry leaders, government officials, and sector experts to discuss the future of renewable energy and explore investment opportunities.

FUTURE ROADMAP: EXPANDING GREEN ENERGY HORIZONS

Madhya Pradesh has set ambitious targets for the future, aiming to achieve a renewable energy capacity of 53,825 MW by FY35. This includes massive investments in solar, wind and storage solutions. Storage capacity alone is projected to increase from 4,852 MW by FY25 to 11,943 MW by FY35, ensuring grid stability and energy reliability.

TOWARDS A BRIGHTER, GREENER FUTURE

Madhya Pradesh's dedication to renewable energy is evident in its ambitious projects, investment-friendly policies, and commitment to sustainability. As the state continues to expand its clean energy infrastructure, it not only secures a greener future for its citizens but also strengthens India's position as a global leader in renewable energy. With the sun shining bright on its energy landscape, Madhya Pradesh is poised to be a beacon of sustainable development for years to come.

Key Incentives for power and renewable energy equipment manufacturing zone

- One-time lease premium token amount – Rs 1
- Annual lease rent – Rs 1 per sqm (fixed for 35 years)
- Annual development charges – Rs 20 per sqm (fixed for 35 years)
- 100 per cent reimbursement of stamp duty and registration charges
- Power – Rs 4.36/unit and water- Rs 25/KL
- Capex subsidy up to 40 per cent
- 100 per cent reimbursement of SGST & patent charges (up to Rs 5 lakh)
- Testing facility for solar, wind and power equipment

Government-backed policies

- Electricity duty: 100 per cent exemption for 10 years
- Energy development cess shall be exempted for 10 years
- 50 per cent reimbursement on stamp duty on the purchase of private land
- 50 per cent rebate on circle rate for government land

Additional benefits for RE-sourced energy storage projects

- Exemption from payment of 20 per cent of registration cum facilitation fees
- Exemption from payment of electricity duty for 10 years from COD
- 15 per cent reimbursement on stamp duty on the purchase of private land

NATURAL GAS & PETROCHEMICAL

MP strengthens position in petrochemicals and natural gas sector

WITH ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES, MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS, AND A FOCUS ON GREEN HYDROGEN, THE STATE IS POISED TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN INDIA'S ENERGY SECURITY AND DECARBONISATION EFFORTS

INCENTIVES FOR PETROCHEMICAL LARGE UNITS (ELIGIBILITY)

- Investment above **Rs 50 crore** in plant & machinery (P&M)
- Subsidy, concession, incentives
- IPA: Incentive up to 40 per cent of investment in P&M
- Benefits to export-oriented units up to 1.2 times
- Benefits for investment in priority blocks: 1.2 times
- Infrastructure development assistance: at 50 per cent; up to Rs 3 crore for power, water and road (private/ undeveloped government land)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Rich coal bed methane (CBM) and gas production in Vindhyan Basin (ONGC to commercialise gas production soon)
- Investment of Rs 49,000 crore in BPCL's Bina refinery to set up petrochemical complex
- GAIL India to set up an ethane cracker plant of Rs 60,000 crore approx. in Astha, Sehore
- MP has approximately 8 per cent of the country's coal reserves with 7.7 TCF of prognosticated CBM resource (total 91.8 TCF)
- Growing downstream industries like plastic, two dedicated plastic parks: in Raisen (122 acres) & Gwalior (93 acres)
- India's first cross-state gas pipeline Hazira – Vijaipur, Jagdishpur covers 3474 km
- Gas pipeline facilities in II major industrial areas like Mandideep, Bagrida, Pithampur, Dewas and Malanpur

INCENTIVES FOR ETHANOL AND BIO-FUEL (ELIGIBILITY)

- **Investment above Rs 10 crore on Commercial Operation Date (COD):** Units producing fuel-grade ethanol and are supplying a minimum 75 per cent to OMCs ethanol production from all food grains except sugarcane (molasses) and Mahua

SUBSIDY, CONCESSION, INCENTIVES

- **Production-linked fiscal assistance:** Rs 1.50/litre of ethanol supplied to OMCs and manufactured in the unit, up to 100 per cent investment in plant & machinery (P&M) in 7 years
- **Mandi fee:** 100 per cent reimbursement for 5 years
- **Electricity duty:** 100 per cent exempted for 5 years
- **Stamp duty & registration charges:** 100 per cent reimbursement
- **Zero liquid discharge:** 50 per cent capital subsidy, up to Rs 1 crore
- **Infrastructure development subsidy:** 50 per cent assistance, up to Rs 1 crore each for the development of power, water & road infrastructure (private/ undeveloped Govt. land)

The state of Madhya Pradesh is at the forefront of India's energy revolution, making strategic advancements in petrochemicals and sustainable energy.

The state is witnessing significant developments in its petrochemical and natural gas sectors, with major projects aimed at expanding production, harnessing coal bed methane (CBM), and investing in clean energy solutions.

EXPANDING NATURAL GAS AND PETROCHEMICAL CAPABILITIES

One of the key advancements is the commercialisation of gas production in the Vindhyan Basin by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). This marks India's ninth-producing basin, boasting reserves exceeding 62,044 cubic metres per day. Additionally, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is making a massive Rs 49,000 crore investment in a petrochemical complex at Bina Refinery. The facility is set to produce 1,200 kilotons per annum (KTPA) of ethylene and propylene, alongside 2,200 kilotons of various petrochemical products, boosting the state's industrial growth.

ADVANCING COAL BED METHANE (CBM) EXTRACTION

Madhya Pradesh also plays a crucial role in coal bed methane (CBM) extraction, given that it holds 9 per cent of India's coal reserves. The state has 7.7 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of prognosticated CBM resources, with 3.64 TCF in established reserves. The Sohagpur CBM Blocks, spanning 995 sq km, currently produce 0.64 million standard cubic meters per day (mscmd) of gas from over 300 operational wells.

WHY INVEST IN MADHYA PRADESH?

- **Strategic connectivity:** Madhya Pradesh is centrally located which makes it seamless for transportation and distribution.
- **Rich natural resources:** The state boasts of extensive reserves of gas, coal, and CBM supporting large-scale industrial growth.
- **Commitment to sustainability:** The state plays a proactive role in India's clean energy transition with a special focus on green hydrogen initiatives.
- **Rising market demand:** Currently, India's expanding petrochemical industry presents vast investment opportunities in Madhya Pradesh.

FOOD PROCCESSING AND AGRICULTURE

The next big destination for food processing and horticulture

GOVERNMENT-BACKED INITIATIVES, INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS, AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ARE PROPELLING MADHYA PRADESH TOWARDS BECOMING A NATIONAL LEADER IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING

Madhya Pradesh is fast emerging as a powerhouse in India's food processing and horticulture industry. Blessed with fertile land, diverse agro-climatic conditions, and a strategic central location, the state is leveraging its strengths to attract investment and modernise its agricultural sector.

A LEADER IN PRODUCTION

- **RANKING FIRST** in the production of oranges, tomatoes, soybeans, urad dal, and organic farming.
- The state has also bagged the prestigious **Krishi Karmanya award seven times**, a testament to its agricultural prowess.
- **SECOND PLACE** in wheat, maize, gram, onions, and horticultural crops, and third place in milk, aromatic and medicinal plants.
- **Several signature crops**, such as riyawan garlic (Ratlam), Sundara mango (Rewa), Sharbati wheat, and Chinnor rice, have received coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tags, strengthening the state's brand in the national and global markets.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

With abundant natural resources, a strong agricultural base, and government-backed incentives, the state is ideal for investors looking to capitalise on its growing food processing and horticulture sectors.

A THRIVING FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY

Madhya Pradesh is unlocking immense potential in food processing by supporting diverse industries:

- **Fruit & vegetable processing:** The state is fostering value-added processing for mangoes, guavas, tomatoes, and potatoes into juices, purees, and frozen goods.
- **Dairy industry:** Ample milk production presents opportunities for setting up units to produce cheese, butter, yoghurt, and milk powder.
- **Grain and pulse processing:** Flour mills and ready-to-eat food production are rapidly growing segments.
- **Soy & edible oil processing:** As India's Soybean Capital, the state is primed for investments in soy-based products, including oil, protein derivatives and flour.
- **Meat & poultry processing:** Cold storage chains and processing units for meat and poultry are expanding, supporting both domestic and export markets.

PICS \GRAPH\DATA BY DPR BHOPAL

JOIN THE FUTURE AT GIS 2025

- The Global Investors Summit (GIS) 2025 is set to highlight Madhya Pradesh's thriving food processing and horticulture sector. Investors, industry leaders, and policymakers will converge to explore opportunities, partnerships, and innovations shaping the future of agribusiness.

HORTICULTURE BOOM: INVESTMENT IN HIGH-VALUE CROPS

The horticulture sector is witnessing remarkable growth, attracting investments in high-yield and exotic crops. Key opportunities include:

- **Premium fruit cultivation:** Citrus, pomegranates, bananas, and exotic vegetables such as broccoli and lettuce are in high demand.
- **Floriculture:** Commercial flower production, including marigolds, roses and chrysanthemums, is boosting exports.
- **Greenhouse farming:** Controlled-environment agriculture enables year-round cultivation of premium vegetables and fruits.

PIONEERING PROJECTS DRIVING GROWTH

Several upcoming projects are set to revolutionize food processing and horticulture:

- **Gwalior floriculture nursery:** A dedicated facility for ornamental flower cultivation that includes varieties such as marigolds, roses, gladiolus, and chrysanthemums, supplying quality planting material and supporting urban landscaping.
- **Morena potato farming initiative:** A modern farming project under Public-Private Partnership for Integrated Agricultural Development (PPPIAD), that enhances productivity and reduces post-harvest losses.
- **Israeli collaboration on centres of excellence (COEs):** Cutting-edge agricultural technology is being introduced in Morena, Chhindwara, and Harda, focusing on advanced techniques for specific crops.

WHY MADHYA PRADESH IS THE IDEAL INVESTMENT DESTINATION

Strategic connectivity

- Centrally located, with access to 50 per cent of India's population.
- A vast transport network, including 20 major railway stations, 6 airports, and 6 inland container depots (ICDs) for seamless global trade.

World-class infrastructure

- 11 agro-climatic zones enable year-round farming.
- 16 million hectares of irrigated land, supported by 10 major river basins.
- Expanding storage capacity, with 40 MMT warehousing and 13.2 MMT cold storage facilities.

SKILLED WORKFORCE AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

- Home to premier research institutions such as CIAE, IISS, IISR, and IIPR.
- National Research Centres for wheat and fisheries drive agricultural innovation.

D-16117/24

CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

Chandni Chowk Is Our Heritage, Protect It: HC

Proposes High-Level Panel, Asks All Stakeholders To Act

Abhinav.Garg@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Chandni Chowk is the city's pride and requires an effort by all stakeholders to protect it, Delhi High Court stressed on Tuesday.

"What are you doing? You are ruining a world heritage. You have to secure the very concept of Chandni Chowk, it's our heritage, everyone has to come together and protect it," a bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhayaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said while pointing to the "poor upkeep" and "negligence" on the part of the agencies in the area even after its redevelopment.

"Please take the issue seriously. Highest-level officers will be involved. We will not be satisfied with subordinate officers. It is the pride of Delhi," the court said, proposing the setting up of a committee of the "highest"-ranking officials to provide a roadmap. Urgent attention of all the authorities was needed to make sure that Chandni Chowk did not lose its character as a historical and commercial place, the court added.

"This (current) committee does not appear to be functioning properly. Merely conducting meetings and not implementing its decisions will perhaps not suffice. We have to secure not only the existence of shopkeepers but also the historical and commercial character of Chandni Chowk. Merely depending on agencies will not do," it said.

HIGH COURT SAYS

Please take the issue seriously. Highest-level officers will be involved. We will not be satisfied with subordinate officers. It is the pride of Delhi

The bench further observed that "concerted efforts of all agencies — municipal corporation concerned, Delhi Police, PWD, traffic police, local civil administration, department of urban development of Delhi, Shahjahanabad Redevelopment Corporation and Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board was required."

HC's observations and order came on a public interest litigation of Chandni Chowk Sarv Vyapar Mandal, which claimed a "highly neglected, disturbing and pathetic state of affairs" in the area under Chandni Chowk Redevelopment Project from Lal Quila Road up to Fatehpuri Masjid and its surrounding areas, including metro stations.

Senior advocate Sanjeev Ralli, who appeared for the petitioner, said that despite the redevelopment, the area fell into chaos due to neglect and lack of attention on the part of the authorities. During the hearing, HC reminded the shopkeepers that they must also participate and volunteer in maintaining the area. "Why are you not volunteering? Shopkeepers also need to participate," it said, noting that Chandni Chowk attracts lakhs of tourists from across the world.

The court also allowed Delhi Hindustani Mercantile Association to be heard as a party to the case and asked all parties to file their stand over setting up the high-level committee. Chandni Chowk Sarv Vyapar Mandal, among other issues, has raised problems such as damage to the infrastructure, lack of maintenance and hygiene, public spaces occupied by homeless, vagabonds, drug addicts, and stray cattle in the PIL.

There are illegal and unregulated vending activities and encroachments in the no-hawking and no-vending zones, and thousands of unregulated rickshaws ply on Chandni Chowk Road, it added. The matter will be heard in April.

Govt, cops' response sought on STD tests on child victims

New Delhi: Delhi High Court has sought responses from the Centre and Delhi Police on a plea seeking guidelines for testing the accused and minor survivors in sexual offences for sexually transmitted diseases (STD).

A bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela last week issued notice to the central ministries of home affairs and health and family welfare, apart from the Delhi govt, Delhi Police, and Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights, and asked for their response on the issue, while posting the matter for further hearing on Mar 28.

It was hearing a plea by petitioners, including one Aishwarya Sinha, seeking directions to formulate and implement guidelines detailing the role of each entity involved—from the investigating officer, hospitals to child welfare committees—for testing the child survivors of sexual offences and the accused for STD and sexually transmitted infections (STI). The petitioners maintained that child survivors of sexual assault, who face exposure to STIs and STDs, do not receive medical assistance within the first 72 hours, even in cases where the incident is reported swiftly, making them vulnerable. It sought the administering of immediate medical aid and psycho-social support to child survivors who might be at risk of contracting such diseases, besides counselling. TNN

6 detained for stone pelting incident

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Following a viral social media post showing stone pelting in Madanpur Khadar, Delhi Police have detained three adults and three juveniles, police said on Tuesday.

The viral footage depicted a group causing disturbance in a residential area.

On Feb 16, police initiated a probe upon receiving three PCR calls about the incident. Despite dispatching a team to investigate, no witnesses initially came forward to provide statements.

Subsequently, local residents anonymously identified five participants in the altercation, comprising two adults and three minors.

"Police teams then identified Sanjeev (20) and Sudhansoo (20), along with three boys aged 12 to 14, as participants in the stone pelting incident stemming from a minor disagreement," a senior police officer said.

Police detained the group, formally charging the adults while releasing the minors to parental custody.

Further probe led to the identification of another suspect, Aman (21), who was later apprehended at Pushta on Kalindi Kunj road. Officers recovered a country-made pistol and two live cartridges from him. Aman was subsequently arrested.

"The search continues for additional suspects as investigations proceed," the officer said.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
The Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Working Plans (South)-II Division, Bankura invites Tender vide Tender Notice No. WBFOR/WP(S)II/DFO/NIeT02_2024-25 (2nd Call) in connection with DGPS Survey of Forest Boundary on Cadastral Map of Durgapur Division under South East Circle. Bid submission start date & time from 21/02/2025 at 01:00 P.M. Bid submission end date & time 07/03/2025 at 01:00 P.M. Technical Bid opening date & time 10/03/2025 at 03:00 P.M. Financial Bid opening date & time to be notify later. Interested experienced and resourceful contractors are requested to check the Website of Directorate of Forests, e-procurement portal, Government of West Bengal & District Portal, Bankura District, Bankura/ contact the office of the undersigned for details. These advertisements are also given www.bankuraforest.in & www.westbengalforest.gov.in Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer, Working Plans (South)-II Division, Bankura.
ICA- T3333(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
Tender Ref. No . WBPHED/EE/MD/NIeQ_07 of 2024-2025, Vide memo no. 229/MD, dated-22/01/2025 Tender ID- 2025_PHED_805114_1 to 2025_PHED_805114_2
Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (online):- 21/02/2025 upto 5:00 P.M, Tender invited by the undersigned for AIRP of Gadai Maharajpur PWSS under Malda Division, P.H.E. Dte. **All details available in website: http://wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Malda Division, P.H.E. Dte. Govt. of West Bengal.**
ICA- T3399(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Hooghly Division, PHE Dte. for NIeT No- WBPHE/EE/22/HUG/2024-25/ISAL E SWAB-2025 related to ISAL-E-SWAB at Furfura Sarif under Hooghly Division PHE Dte. Bid submission Closing Date 01.03.2025 upto 03.00 p.m. & Opening Date 03.03.2025 up to 03.00 p.m. For Details, corrigendum/ addendum, participating in the tender log on to :- www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Hooghly Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA- T3422(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-II Division, Housing Directorate, Inviting Sealed Tender for & on behalf of Governor of West Bengal, Ref: e-NIT-17 of 2024-25 of E.E.KS-II Div. Tender I.D. is **2025_HSD_816359_1.** Last Date of submission 05.03.2025 Up to 3.00 P.M. For Details please visit wbtender.gov.in or contract in the Office of The Executive Engineer in any working day. S/D - Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-II Division, Housing Directorate
ICA- T3352(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
TENDER ID: 2025_WBP_814638_1 DATED-11/02/2025
WORK TITLE: SERVICING/REPAIRING AND OTHER CHARGES FOR THE WORK/JOB, FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-25 AND 2025-26. BID CLOSING DATE: 25/02/2025. FOR MORE DETAILS LOG ON TO: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Superintendent of police, Government Railway police, Kharagpur
ICA- T3343(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-I Division, Housing Directorate, Inviting Sealed Tender for & on behalf of Governor of West Bengal, Ref: e-NIQ-03 of 2024-25 of E.E.KS-I Div (2nd Call). Tender I.D. are 2025_HSD_816607_1. Last Date of submission 27.02.2025 upto 02.00 P.M. For Details please visit wbtender.gov.in or contract in the Office of The Executive Engineer in any working day. Sd/- G. Sinha, Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-I Division, Housing Directorate
ICA- T3354(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
Director Security, West Bengal invites e-tender from OEM/authorized dealers/ firms for purchase of UVSM, Prodder, ,H.L Torch light, GPS, vide RENIT no-DOS/DS/NIT-99/100/102/103-14/2024-2025 (2nd Call) as per details and specifications given in the website: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** Intending bidders may download NIT from 20/02/25 onwards. The last date of submission of bid (on-line) 15/03/25. Sd/- DIRECTOR SECURITY, W.B.
ICA- T3326(3)/2025

Special Leave Petition (Civil) Diary no(s). 46595/2024 In the Supreme Court of India

In the matter of:

Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority, a statutory body of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department, Government of West Bengal, constituted under West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) Act, 1979 having its registered office at Tenzing Norgey Central Bus Terminus, Pradhan Nagar, Siliguri- 734003.

Vs

Bengal Unitech Universal Siliguri Projects Limited, a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 having its registered office at 6, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi 110017 and also at Horizons Tower 7, Unit Nos. 001 & 002, Action Area III, Major Arterial Road, New Town Rajarhat Kolkata-700160 (within the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court).

NOTICE

INVITATION FOR TRANSFER OF LAND MEASURING ABOUT 92.96 ACRES ON LEASE HOLD BASIS FOR THE PERIOD OF 99 YEARS, SITUATED AT MOUZA-DABGRAM, J.L. NO- 02, SHEET NO. 16 & 17 WITHIN P.S. RAIGANJ, DIST.-JALPAIGURI, WEST BENGAL (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE "SAID LAND").

Pursuant to the order dated 4th February 2025 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Special Leave Petition (Civil) Diary No (S) 46595/2024, offers are invited along with receipt of deposition of Rs. 50 crores with the registry of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for the purpose of TOWNSHIP USE in respect of the "said land" on "As is where is and whatever there is basis" through physical Auction/open bid process to be conducted by the District Magistrate cum Collector of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri Districts at Bagdogra, West Bengal on 3rd March, 2025 at 11:00 A.M in presence of Ms. Garima Prasad Ld. Senior Advocate, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The terms & conditions of the transfer of lease hold right in respect of the "Said Land" will be available from the office of the District Magistrate cum Collector Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri Districts as well as from the office of the undersigned on and from 17th February 2025 onwards upto 2nd March 2025 during 10:00 AM to 05:00 P.M. on working days.

The entire process of the auction shall be placed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India with permission for consideration of the bids and passing necessary orders.

No.126/I/Eng/Plg/404/2003(Pt-IV)/SJDA dated 17 February 2025.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority
Himanchal Vihar, near Passport Seva Laghu Kendra, Matigara-734010
Tel. no. 0353- 2512922/2515647
E-mail: sjdawb@gmail.com
Memo no.: 707(3)/Advt./SDI&CO/SLG. Date: 17.02.2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WRI&DD. e-NIT
CORRIGENDUM
As per corrigendum issued against e-NIT No. – 26 to 29 / 2024 – 25 of Tender ID: **2025_WRDD_799854_1,2025_WRDD_799878_1, 2025_WRDD_799939_1, 2025_WRDD_799949_1 Last date of bid submission is hereby extended up to 24.02.2025, 18.00 Hours.** Intending bidders are requested to visit the website http//wbtenders.gov.in for further details.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (A-I)
Purulia (A-I) Division
PURULIA
ICA- T3424(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
Tender Reference No. NIeT_42 of EE/RD/PHED of 2024-2025, Tender ID : 2025_PHED_810077_1. Last date for submission of Technical and Financial Bid (online):- 25/02/2025 upto 3:00 P.M. Tender invited by the undersigned for Up-Gradation of Dist. Laboratory under Raiganj Division, PHE Dte. All details available in website http://wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Raiganj Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA- T3405(4)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
RESOURCES DIVISION
Janasasthya Karigari Bhawan (Nijalaya), 2nd floor, CN-8, Sector-V, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700091
Notice Inviting e-Tender
No.: WBPHED/EE/RS/e48/2024-2025 Tender ID: 2025_PHED_815396_1
Engagement of 4 nos. skilled Supervisors for Office building Caretaker cum operator of lift, pumps, different types of BMS related operations, Gardening & plant maintenance work etc. on purely contractual basis for Janaswasthya Karigori Bhaban at Plot No.-8, Block- CN, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700091. (For the period of 04 Months) **Pre-qualification, Technical & Financial bid Submission starting date (online) (12.02.2025 from 18:00 hrs.) Pre-qualification, Technical & Financial bid Submission closing date (online) (22.02.2025 at 18:00 hrs.)** For detail Logon to: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- Executive Engineer, Resources Division, Public Health Engineering Directorate, Govt. of West Bengal.
ICA- T3408(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
O/o the Exe. Engineer
Jhargram Electrical Division, PWDte.
Notice Inviting Quotation
Tender Id: 2025_WBPWD_ 815615_1
WBPWD/EE/JED/eNIQ55/2024-25 Bid Submission Start Date: 18/02/2025, Bid Submission Last Date: 04/03/2025. For details, visit concerned office or http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte., Jhargram Electrical Division
ICA- T3355(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-N.I.T No - WBIW/EE/KIDIVISION/ e-NIT- 22 (e)/2024-25 under Kakdwip Irrigation Division, Kakdwip
Online e-tender has been invited by the undersigned for 01 (One) no. of work. amount put to tender Rs. 58.74 lakh. Last date of submission of online bid 05.03.2025 up to 12:00 Hrs. All necessary details may be obtained from West Bengal Government e-tender portal **wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- EE, KID.
ICA- T3327(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer-I, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDte. invites eNIT for "Electrical Installation for Emergency UPS Lighting at corridor, staircase, office & ward areas of (G+7) Site-II of Institute of Psychiatry, Kolkata-700025." vide Tender ID - 2025_WBPWD_815953_1. Last date of submissions – 03/03/25 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen / obtained from the websites https://wbtenders.gov.in / www.pwdwb.in and office Notice Board. Sd/- Executive Engineer-I, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDte.
ICA- T3356(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WRI&DD. e-NIT
CORRIGENDUM
Corrigendum Notice of the undersigned is being invited against e-NIT No. - 39/24-25 to 45/24-25, **Tender ID- 2025_WRDD_799843_1, 2025_WRDD_799849_1, 2025_WRDD_799852_1, 2025_WRDD_799855_1, 2025_WRDD_799857_1, 2025_WRDD_799859_1, 2025_WRDD_799861_1. Last date of bid submission is hereby extended up to 24.02.2025, 18.00 Hours**. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website http//wbtenders.gov.in for further details.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
DPMU, WBADMIP, Purulia
ICA- T3345(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
E-tender is invited by the Commissioner of Police Kolkata for 1) "Repairing and concreting the damaged road surface with M30 grade ready mixed concrete within the compound of Belghoria PHE situated at B. T. Road, Kolkata-700056, during the year 2024-25." The last date for submission of the e-tenders is 07/03/2025 upto 12.00 hours. The NIT Document and other details will be available in the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- for Commissioner of Police, Kolkata.
ICA- T3351(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-QUOTATION
A1. Up-keeping, Sweeping & Cleaning the entire building from G.F. to 5th Floor (2500 Sq.ft. in each floor including 8 Nos. Toilet) of West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board vide NIQ No. WBSAMB/CEO/114/2024-25. Dated 10-02-2025 bearing Tender Id:-2025_WBSMB_815077_1. The last date for submission of Quotation is on 11-03-2025 up to 12:00 Noon. The detail information regarding e-NIQ will be available on the **https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board.**
ICA- T3336(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
E-Tender Notice Reference No. (STM/DT/01/E-TENDER-80/063/2025 & Tender ID: 2025_HFW_816427_1 Dated. 17.02.2025) is invited by the Director, School of Tropical Medicine, 108 C R Avenue, Kolkata – 700 073 for the Procurement of Equipments for Department of Microbiology, STM. **Technical & Financial Bid Submission Closing Date: 11.03/2025 at 02:32 PM** For details please visit : **www.wbtenders.gov.in/www.wbhealth.gov.in**
Sd/- MSVP, School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata
ICA- T3349(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
IRRIGATION & WATERWAYS DIRECTORATE
Notice Inviting Tender
No. WBIW/EE/SDD/e-NIT-12/2024-25
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, tender is invited by the undersigned for two (02) No. of works "De-siltation of Balarampur Branch Khal of Kantakhali Main Khal for a length of 3.90 Km. including bank protection work for a total length of 600 M. within Block and P.S.- Falta, Dist.- South 24 Pgs." & "De-siltation of Mayapur Khal for a length of 2.577 Km. including bank protection work for a total length of 300 M. in within Block- Budge Budge-I, PS-Budge Budge, Dist.- South 24 Pgs." amounting to Rs. 77,17,594.00 and Rs. 51,76,850.00. Last date of application online is 05.03.2025 up to 11.00 hrs. Other details may be seen in the websites www.wbiwd.gov.in, wbtenders.gov.in and in the office of the undersigned. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Suburban Drainage Division
ICA- T3329(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Corrigendum Notice
Corrigendum issued by the Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte. on behalf of Governor of West Bengal vide Ref. No. WBPHE/16/NAD-I of 24-25, ID- 2025_PHED_809660_1 to 5 & WBPHE/17/NAD-I of 24-25 ID-2025_PHED_811822_1 to 7 for different works under Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte., Kalyani, Nadia. Details will be available in the website wbtenders.gov.in the last date for online sub-mission extended of tender is NIeT-16/NAD-I/24-25 dt. 07.03.2025 upto 12.00 PM & NIeT-17/NAD-I/24-25 dt. 15.03.2025 upto 12.00 P.M. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, PHE Dte.
ICA- T3410(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No. 26/EE/DIV-IV/Housing (BSUP)/KMDA of 2024-2025
Online e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, DIV-IV, Housing (BSUP), Housing Sector, KMDA, 6th Floor, Block-A, **Unnayan Bhawan,** Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091, from reliable, resourceful, bonafide and experienced firms / companies / individual / partnership firm contractors, for the work, **Name of Work, Estimated Amount, Earnest Money, Time of Completion,** Emergent sinking of one 150 mm x 150 mm x 250 mm dia Deep Tubewell including connection with existing water distribution line in KIT Housing Scheme SIH-II under Housing Sector, KMDA., Rs.7,66,669/- (Including GST & LWC), Rs.**15,340/-**, 02 months, **Last date & time of Online Bid submission: 26.02.2025, Time: 13.00 hrs**, for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1179)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T3414(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WBPHED TENDER NOTICE
Tender ID: 2025_PHED_805371_1 NIET No. 09/SE/MC-I/WBPHED OF2024-2025, Dated-22.01.2025
The Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Circle-I, P.H.E. Dte., Govt. of W.B., 81/2/7, Phears Lane, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700012, Email: se_mc1@wbphed.gov.in, invites bids for "Supply and installation of disinfection arrangement (Gaseous Chlorination) and other works at different OHR sites of Aug. of Purbasthali Surface Water Based PWSS Zone-I under Central Mechanical Division, P.H.E. Dte., Dist.- Purba Bardhaman." Last date of submission of bid (online): 13.03.2025 upto 2:00 p.m. The tender document can be downloaded from www.wbtenders.gov.in The NIT will also visible at www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- SE/MC-I/WBPHED
ICA- T3403(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
NIeT No. 43/BD of 2024-25, Vide Memo No. 222/BD dt. 20.01.2025, Tender reference no. 222_BD_NIeT_43 of 2024_25, Tender ID: 2025_ PHED_804012_1 to 3
Tender invited by the undersigned for - **1)** Construction of switch room cum chlorine room with sanitary and water supply arrangement for Augmentation of Bhabanipur w/s scheme (Z-I), Hasnabad block, **2)** Construction of 200 cum capacity CWR, pipe connection and cost of pipes, specials for Augmentation of Sandeshkhali water supply scheme, Sandeshkhali-II Block, **3)** Additional Construction of 2 nos. switch room cum chlorine room Augmentation of Hingalganj w/s scheme (Z-II), Hingalganj block under Hasnabad Sub-Division, under Barasat Division, PHE Dte.-(SL-01 to 03 All 2nd Call). Closing date of submission of both Technical and Financial bid (online) = 19.02.2025 at 1.00 P.M. Details of Tender document and its related corrigendum/Addendum (if any) may be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, Barasat Division, P.H.E. Dte. On working days during office hours or in website-http://www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Barasat Division, PHE Dte.
T3400(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online tender is invited by the undersigned for the works: "Annual Maintenance Contract of Electrical Installation at Rabindra Okakura Bhawan, Sector- I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700064". Tender No: WBPWD/EE/BED/e-NIQ-95/2024-25 & e-Tender ID No. 2025_WBPWD_810071_1. Document Download Closing Date: 04.03.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. Details may be downloaded from etender.wb.nic.in Sd/-Executive Engineer, PWD Bidhannagar Electrical Division
ICA- T3380(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer-I, P.W. Dte., Central Kolkata Health Electrical Division, P-12, C.I.T Road (1st Floor), Kolkata-14 invites e-tender (online) for the work of (1) "Annual Maintenance & repair of Electrical Installation of Dr. R. Ahmed Dental College and Hospital (New Building) and (G+7) storied Boys and Girls Hostel.----Day to day maintenance of electrical installation" vide e-tender no. WBPWD/EE-I/CKHED/eNIT-116/24-25. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_816497_1. Bid submission end date (online) for the job is 13/03/2025 upto 14:00 P.M. Detail information/download/upload will be available from the website: **http://etender.wb.nic.in, http://wbtenders.gov.in & http://pwdwb.in Sd/- Arindam Haldar, Executive Engineer-I, Central Kolkata Health Electrical Division, P.W. Dte.**
ICA- T3390(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte . Electrical Construction Division invites online e-Tender for the work of "Replacement of damaged sub main cable from substation to Administrative Building and augmentation of Electrical installation work at Ground floor, Administrative building, BG lines, Alipore, Kolkata for the financial year 2024-25." eNIT No.- WBPWD/EE-ECD/e-NIT-42(2nd call)/2024-25. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_815621_1. Bid submission start date(online): 22/02/2025 from 1.00 P.M. Bid submission closing date(online): 03/03/2025 upto 1.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from : http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- S.Karmakar Executive Engineer, P.W.Dte. Electrical Construction Division
ICA- T3369(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Murshidabad Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte. invites online e-Tender for 3 (three) nos. work **1)** Construction of New building at Kanapukur Rural Hospital under Bhagwangola-I Block in the District of Murshidabad.Estimated Amount Rs. 94,58,245.00. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_815427_1. **2)** Construction of Dormitory type Ward at Beldanga Rural Hospital under Beldanga-I Block in the District of Murshidabad. Estimated Amount Rs. 94,69,591.00. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_815427_2. **3)** Construction of Dormitory type Ward at Burwan Rural Hospital under Burwan Block in the District of Murshidabad. Estimated amount Rs. 94,67,466.00. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_815427_3. eNIT No. WBPWD/SS/EE/MSD/eNIT-20/2024-25. Bid Submission Start Date (online): 15/02/2025, Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 25/02/2025. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from: https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Murshidabad Division, Social Sector, P.W.Dte.
ICA- T3364(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online tender is invited by the undersigned for the works: "Repairing, replacement and Supply, Installation and Fabrication of MS cable tray with allied El work at North side and South side of North and North-East Block, Bikash Bhawan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-91." Tender No: WBPWD/EE/BED/e-NIQ-93/2024-25 & e-Tender ID No. 2025_WBPWD_810833_1. Document Download Closing Date: 28.02.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs. Details may be downloaded from etender.wb.nic.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Bidhannagar Electrical Division.
ICA- T3381(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer – I, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte. invites eNIT for "Urgently Replacement of the battery for UPS system of different types and capacities at different floor and location of Khidirpore Maternity Home, Annex 5, IPGME&R - SSKM Hospital, Ekbalpur, Kolkata." vide Tender ID - 2025_WBPWD_815824_1. Last date of submissions – 01/03/25 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen / obtained from the websites https://wbtenders.gov.in / www.pwdwb.in and office Notice Board. Sd/- Executive Engineer – I Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte.
ICA- T3374(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-QUOTATION
e-NIQ No. 05(Sl 1) of 2024-25 of EE/NHD-I, P.W. (Roads) Directorate invites online e-tender for- 1) Tender ID-2025_WBPWD_816515_1. Bid submission start date (online)-22/02/2025 from 9:00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online)-01/03/2025 upto 11:00 A.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from **https://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- EE/Nadia Hway Div.-I.
ICA- T3396(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting Tender
e-Tender is hereby invited from eligible firms for purchase of various Miscellaneous Articles & food, Temporary construction, repairing, painting, hiring etc. in c/w Annual e-tender for the year 2025-26 of RI Misc. Store, Sundarban Police District. For details of NIT Ref. No. 01/RI/SPD 2025-2026, Visit website:- **www.wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- Superintendent of Police, Sundarban Police District.
ICA- T3338(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (2nd call)
Online bids are invited by the Principal, CIAT School & Commandant, E.F.R. 1st Bn., Salua, Paschim Medinipur for Supply of following articles at CIAT School, Salua for the financial year 2025-2026. **1.** Cooked Foods/foods:- NIT No.1, **2.** Clothing articles:- NIT No.2, **3.** Stationery items:- NIT No.3, **4.** Training Materials (including target materials & obstacles materials & maintenance & Range maintenance items):- NIT No.4. Bid submission starts after the 03(three) days of the publication of e-tender notice (2nd call) in the newspapers & Last date of bid submission is 14 days from the start date of Bid submission. The detailed N.I.T may be obtained from e-tender portal http://wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T3340(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer – I, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte. invites eNIT for "Supply & Delivery of electrical maintenance materials for different Buildings (i.e., Emergency building, Blood bank, Rheumatology building, old PMR building, New PMR building and Sports Medicine) within the premises of IPGME&R-SSKM Hospital under the SSKMESD, PWD." vide Tender ID - 2025_WBPWD_815768_1. Last date of submissions – 28/02/25 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen / obtained from the websites https://wbtenders.gov.in / www.pwdwb.in and office Notice Board. Sd/- Executive Engineer – I Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte.
ICA- T3371(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Bishnupur Division, PWD invites online Tender for the work of-1. Repair, Renovation Work & Extension of Meeting Hall of the CMOH Office, Bishnupur DH, Bishnupur under Bishnupur Division, P.W.D in the district of Bankura during the year 2024-2025. Amount Put to Tender- Rs. **1259016.00, Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_816492_1. e-NIT No: 23 of 2024-2025 of EE/BD/PWD;** Bid submission closing date **08.03.2025** up to **12:00 pm**. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from **http://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/ Executive Engineer, Bishnupur Division, P.W. Dte.
ICA- T3391(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
The Executive Engineer – I, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte. invites eNIT for "Supply & Delivery of Electrical maintenance materials for different Buildings like Gynae, Neonatology cardiology building of IPGME&R-SSKM Hospital under jurisdiction of JE-VII SSKM (H) Electrical Sub-Divn, PWDte." vide Tender ID - 2025_WBPWD_815778_1. Last date of submissions – 28/02/25 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen / obtained from the websites https://wbtenders.gov.in / www.pwdwb.in and office Notice Board. Sd/- Executive Engineer – I Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte.
ICA- T3372(2)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting Tender
EE/PWD/TD, invites e-Tender for Making Biographical Statement of developmental work under Tamluk Division P.W. Dte. (Contai Sub Division, Haldia Construction Sub-Division-1, and Tamluk Sub-Division P.W. Dte) during the year 2024-25. **NIeQ No. 14 of 2024-2025. Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_815498_1.** Bid submission start date (online): 13.02.2025 from 10:00 Hours. Bid Submission closing date (online): 03.03.2025 at 14:00 Hours. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIeQ and Tender documents may be downloaded from **http://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W. Dte., Tamluk Division.
ICA- T3382(3)/2025

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
O/O the Superintending Engineer, PWD South-Western Electrical Circle, Sahid Mangal Pandey Sarani, Midnapur-721101
Notice Inviting e-Quotation
No.- WBPWD/SE/SWEC/NIQ69/ 2024-25/Re-Tender
Tender ID: 2025_WBPWD_798342_2
Last date of submission of bid :- 05.03.2025 up to 14:30 Hrs. **Name Of Work:** Construction of New S.D.O. Office Building (G+1) With Foundation of (G+4) including single story Electrical Sub-station building at Debhog, Haldia, in the district Purba Medinipur (Phase -I).SITC of LIFT (MRL). Further details can be seen in the above mentioned office during working hours or in Official Website: **www.pwdwb.gov.in** For all details and online tender submission visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** Sd/- S.DAS, SE, SWEC, P.W. Dte.
ICA- T3386(3)/2025

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref. No.: WBPDCL / Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC- 3163 Dated: 08.02.2025
NIT No.: WBPDCL /SGTPP/NIT/ E3266/24-25
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, SgTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for **"Procurement of Insulation Materials under BM#1 Dept. & AHPMM#1 Dept. SgTPP, WBPDCL". Tender Document Download Start Date:** 07.02.2025 at 03.00 PM. **Bid Submission End Date:** 28.02.2025 at 03.00 PM. **Contact Person:** Mr. Arun Mandal, Dy. General Manager & HOD (Purchase Dept.). **Phone:** 8336903813. **E-mail:** amondal@wbpdcl.co.in For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA- T3426(2)/2025

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Sagardighi Thermal Power Project
P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref. No.: WBPDCL / Tend-Adv/24-25/SgTPP/CC- 3161 Dated: 08.02.2025
NIT No.: WBPDCL /SGTPP/NIT/ E3265/24-25
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager SgTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for **"Procurement of different Consumable Items for Overhauling of Unit#1 AHP Mechanical System, SgTPP, WBPDCL". Tender Document Download Start Date:** 07.02.2025 at 03.00 PM. **Bid Submission End Date:** 28.02.2025 at 03.00 PM. **Contact Person:** Mr. Arun Mandal, Dy. General

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Why young Indians in their 20s are developing brittle bones

Osteopenia, the first stage of osteoporosis, is affecting young adults due to sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition, say doctors

Steffy.Thevar@timesofindia.com

Recently, a 22-year-old woman walked into an orthopaedic surgeon's room with complaints of fatigue and joint pain that refused to go away. She had a history of hypothyroidism and polycystic ovarian disease but, at her age, bone-related complications seemed unlikely. The doctor recommended a bone density scan and, to his surprise, found the onset of osteopenia — bone loss due to aging and other factors.

For the first time in his 20 years of practice, Dr Mahesh MN, who works at Sathya Sai Orthopaedic Multi-Speciality Hospital in Bengaluru, is noticing a startling trend of osteopenia cases in young adults. Most of them report lethargy, bone pain and frequent fractures after small injuries. "What was common among women in their 40s can now be seen in 20-year-olds," says Dr Mahesh. "Back in the 2000s when I started my practice, osteopenia was considered a common bone condition among the elderly, but now it is striking the young."

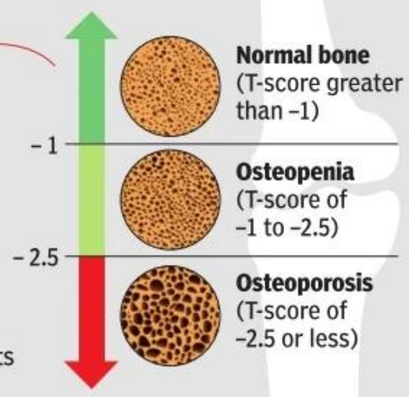
iStock

WHAT ARE THE TESTS NEEDED?

- **DEXA** or **DXA scan**, a bone density test to measure mineral content of bones
- **Quantitative Ultrasound**, a non-invasive screening method, as well as blood tests to assess **alkaline phosphatase**, **vitamin D**, and **calcium levels**
- **Radiographs** to rule out fractures, other conditions
- **FRAX Score**, an assessment tool used to estimate the 10-year probability of fractures

TO IMPROVE BONE HEALTH

- Get enough calcium
- Don't forget vitamin D
- Walk, run and lift weights
- Avoid alcohol, smoking



> Most patients may not even know they have osteopenia. They must look for fatigue, weakness and knee pain, classic symptoms of weaker bones
>
> **Dr Mahesh MN**
> ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON

EARLY DAMAGE

Doctors say inadequate nutrition and lack of physical activity in childhood lay the foundation for adult bone diseases. Dr Parag Sancheti, chairperson of Pune's Sancheti Hospital, was appalled to find osteopenia in an 11-year-old boy. "He came for a femur fracture evaluation from a minor trauma when we made the discovery. He had no significant comorbidities but was found to have poor dietary calcium intake, low sunlight exposure and limited physical activity," he says.

A SILENT DISEASE

Osteopenia and osteoporosis are both varying degrees of bone loss as measured by bone mineral density (BMD), a marker for how strong a bone is. Osteopenia is the first stage of bone loss, and often referred to as a 'silent' disease since most people with the condition experience no symptoms at all. It typically affects people over 50. Genetics and lifestyle factors also play a part. The good news is that it is reversible.

Dr Sancheti says early signs of osteopenia include frequent fractures from minor injuries, persistent bone pain, particularly in weight-bearing areas, noticeable decrease in height and early curvature of the spine or stooped posture. Most ignore these symptoms till the problem worsens to osteoporosis.

MEN GET IT TOO

A 2024 study published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR) showed that with advancing age, women have a higher prevalence of osteopenia and osteoporosis. Testosterone gives men natural protection as it helps maintain bone health and density, but that doesn't mean men don't get it. A 2017 paper on 'Rising prevalence of osteopenia in young and middle-aged men in South Mumbai', published in the Madridge Journal of Behavioural and Social Sciences, found osteopenia to be an undetected condition in Indian males, with almost 50% prevalence in the elderly and 18% in the young. Vertebral and hip fractures led to functional impairment and greater mortality risk in men than in women.

FINDING THE ROOT CAUSE

Dr Mahesh links rising incidence to poor sleep quality, too much junk food, alcohol and smoking, a sedentary lifestyle, and lack of vitamin D. "Major lifestyle changes in the past 20 years, with more people working through the night and poor dietary intake, has led to this trend. Most patients may not even know they have osteopenia. They must look for fatigue, weakness and pain in knees which are classic symptoms of weaker bones," he says.

The first step of treatment for osteopenia involves diet and exercise choices. The risk of breaking a bone when you have osteopenia is fairly small, so doctors don't usually prescribe medicine unless your BMD is close to osteoporosis level. But combating a sedentary lifestyle is crucial. Like muscles, bones get stronger when you use them. So, the best moves for bones are weight-bearing exercises that force your body to work against gravity. Dr Amit Kale, senior orthopaedic surgeon at DPU Super Specialty Hospital, Pimpri, recommends at least 10,000 steps daily. "That, and adequate sunlight exposure to boost vitamin D levels, a balanced diet rich in calcium, including dairy products, bananas, custard apple, finger millet etc. One can also take vitamin D and calcium supplements."

Treatment depends on the root cause — hormonal imbalance, lifestyle, diet, or lack of exercise. "For a 22-year-old who came to our hospital last year, we adopted a multi-pronged approach that will take about 5-6 months to completely treat osteopenia. Sometimes, people also require counselling as depression and stress contribute to the condition. Early intervention is crucial to treat osteopenia and avoid osteoporosis," says Dr Mahesh.

Curd rice	1 serving	Khichdi
180-220	CALORIES	200-250
4-6gm	PROTEIN	6-8gm
4-6gm	FAT	5-8gm
30-35gm	CARBS	30-35gm
Negligible	FIBRE	2-4gm (higher with veggies)
Yes	PROBIOTICS	No

Curd rice and khichdi are excellent gluten-free comfort foods in their own right, though they differ in taste and nutritional profiles. Curd rice, made with cold or leftover rice and curd, is rich in probiotics and, therefore, great for gut health. It's lower in calories with a good protein and calcium content and has a cooling effect on the stomach, aiding digestion. Khichdi, made with rice, lentils and some veggies, is a balanced meal in itself that provides plant-based protein along with fibre. It is ideal during illness or recovery. Both these foods are healthy choices depending on one's dietary needs and preferences.

Source: **Ritika Samaddar**, chief clinical nutritionist, Max Healthcare

LATEST IN HEALTH RESEARCH

Stuck in traffic? It can lead to unhealthy eating

University of Illinois scientists have found an uncanny connection between traffic congestion and fast food. "We see a rise in fast food joint visits if there's traffic around evening meal time as drivers ponder whether to go home and cook, or just get fast food," said study author Becca Taylor. It's common in every big city, so policymakers must ease congestion to inculcate healthy eating habits, she added.

Marijuana meddles with working memory

University of Colorado researchers have found frequent use of marijuana can damage working memory, with 63% of heavy cannabis users showing reduced brain activity. "During a conversation with your boss, you need to remember what they said long enough to respond. Losing working memory means that might be more challenging," study lead Joshua Gowin told CNN.

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ADVERTORIAL

Kidney Diseases: India's Silent Ticking Time Bomb

The rising prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in India is a cause for concern, with diabetic nephropathy being identified as a major contributing factor.

This edit piece is trying to explore the causes, impact, preventive measures, and the role of the government and healthcare system in addressing the time bomb of kidney diseases in India.

In India, the prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) is reaching alarming levels, with an estimated 800 cases per million people. The incidence of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) is also on the rise, with figures ranging from 150 to 200 cases per million people. This silent epidemic is a ticking time bomb that requires urgent attention and action.

BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS CAUSING THIS SURGE IN KIDNEY DISEASE IN INDIA?

Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) has emerged as a significant public health concern in India, with recent studies indicating a notable increase in its prevalence. A systematic review and meta-analysis published in the Nephrology Journal revealed that CKD affects approximately 13.24% of adults in India.

The prevalence has risen from 11.12% between 2011 and 2017 to 16.38% between 2018 and 2023 among individuals aged 15 years and above. Notably, CKD is more prevalent in rural areas (15.34%) compared to urban regions (10.65%), and among men (14.80%) compared to women (13.51%). The highest prevalence was observed in Southern India, reaching 14.78%.

CAUSES OF KIDNEY DISEASE IN INDIA

The most common cause of CKD in India is diabetic nephropathy. With diabetes becoming increasingly prevalent in the country, especially among the younger population, the number of cases of kidney disease is also on the rise.

Diabetes is a major contributor to renal failure deaths, further highlighting the crucial link between these two health conditions. Diabetic nephropathy, along with hypertension, glomerulonephritis, and other factors such as genetics, poor lifestyle choices, and inadequate access to healthcare services, are all playing a role in the growing burden of kidney disease in India.

Lack of awareness about the importance of early detection and treatment of kidney disease is also a significant factor contributing to the escalating numbers.

THE IMPACT OF KIDNEY DISEASE

The impact of kidney disease goes beyond just physical health. It also takes a toll on the mental, emotional, and financial well-being of individuals and their families.

The cost of dialysis and other treatments can be exorbitant, pushing many families into poverty. The need for kidney transplants further exacerbates the situation, as the demand for organs far outweighs the supply.

The increasing incidence of CKD has led to a corresponding rise in the demand for dialysis services. India adds approximately 220,000 new patients with end-stage renal disease each year, yet the country's dialysis sector can accommodate only about 175,000 patients.

SEVERAL FACTORS LIKE AFFORDABILITY; ACCESSIBILITY; AWARENESS AND EARLY DETECTION MAINLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE LIMITED ACCESS TO QUALITY DIALYSIS IN INDIA:

AFFORDABILITY: Dialysis can be prohibitively expensive for many patients. On average, each patient requires 10 to 12 sessions monthly, costing approximately 1,600 per session.

This amounts to about 16,000 to 18,400 monthly, and roughly 240,000 annually. Additional expenses include laboratory tests, doctor consultations, and medications.

ACCESSIBILITY: Most dialysis centres are located in urban and semi-urban areas, necessitating long-distance travel for patients residing in remote regions. This not only increases transportation costs but also imposes a significant time burden on patients.

Fight CKD with Awareness and Care!
#CareForKidney
An initiative by Lords Mark Industries Limited

AWARENESS AND EARLY DETECTION: Early detection and treatment are crucial for successful CKD management. However, many Indians are diagnosed at advanced stages of the disease.

A lack of awareness and limited access to healthcare professionals, especially nephrologists in tier 2 and 3 cities, exacerbate this issue.

OVERWORKED MACHINES

India's dialysis sector is under immense strain due to the rising number of chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients. With addition of approximately 220,000 new end-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients, the existing dialysis centres are overburdened, as they are required to cater to a patient load much higher than their designed capacity.

According to industry experts, we have around 6,000 dialysis centres functioning in India, as against an estimated demand of 15,000. This inadequacy poses significant challenges, particularly for economically disadvantaged populations.

As a result, dialysis machines are running beyond their optimal capacity, leading to frequent breakdowns, longer wait times, and suboptimal treatment for patients.

MOST MACHINES BEING IMPORTED AND EXPENSIVE

One of the major challenges in expanding dialysis services is the high cost of dialysis machines, most of which are imported. The reliance on foreign manufacturers makes these machines expensive, with each unit costing between ₹8 lakh to ₹15 lakh, depending on the technology and features.

Additionally, maintenance and repair costs are steep, as spare parts and servicing expertise are limited in India. That is the reason why treatment becomes unaffordable for many.

SCARCITY OF DIALYSIS MACHINES

Despite the growing number of CKD patients, India faces an acute shortage of dialysis machines and centres. While urban areas have relatively better access, rural patients often need to travel long distances to the nearest facility. This not only increases the financial burden on families but also limits patients' ability to adhere to their treatment schedule.

The government has launched initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme under the National Health Mission, but the demand still far exceeds supply.

COMPROMISED HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE OF PATIENTS

The scarcity and overuse of dialysis machines significantly impact patients' health and lifestyle. Many patients receive fewer dialysis sessions than medically recommended, leading to inadequate waste removal from the blood, which in turn causes complications such as fluid overload, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular issues.

Additionally, the physical and financial burden of frequent hospital visits disrupts work, education, and overall quality of life for patients and their families. The lack of early detection and treatment further exacerbates the issue, as many CKD cases are diagnosed at advanced stages when treatment options are limited and costly.

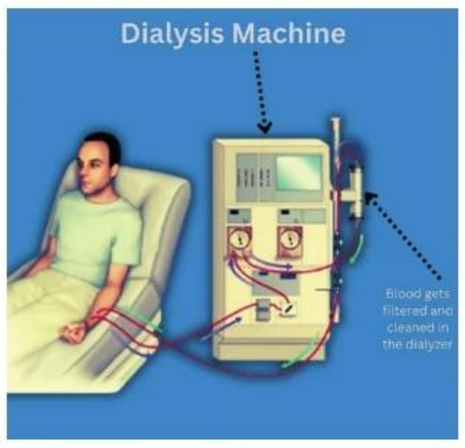
PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Preventing kidney disease in India requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses the various factors at play. This includes raising awareness about the importance of regular health check-ups, especially for those at high risk such as diabetics and individuals with a family history of kidney disease.

Lifestyle modifications such as maintaining a healthy diet, staying physically active, and avoiding harmful habits like smoking and excessive alcohol consumption, can also help reduce the risk of developing kidney disease.

THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

The government and healthcare system in India also have a crucial role to play in tackling the growing burden of kidney disease. There is a need for increased investment in healthcare infrastructure, facilities, and trained medical professionals to provide early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of kidney disease.



Public awareness campaigns and education programs can also help raise awareness about the risk factors and symptoms of kidney disease, encouraging people to seek timely medical help.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

To address these challenges, the Indian government has implemented initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme under the National Health Mission, which has led to the establishment nearly 1600 centres running around 11,000 haemodialysis machines in various parts of the country. Additionally, schemes like Ayushman Bharat have improved access to medical infrastructure, including dialysis services, in tier 2 and 3 towns.

The private sector also plays a pivotal role, with organised dialysis providers and startups introducing innovative business models to enhance the renal care ecosystem.

Despite these efforts, significant gaps remain in the availability and quality of dialysis services in India. A concerted approach involving government initiatives, private sector participation, and increased public awareness is essential to improve early detection, accessibility, and affordability of CKD treatment across the country.

CONCLUSION

The time bomb of kidney disease in India is a reality that cannot be ignored. With the numbers on the rise, urgent action is needed to prevent and control the spread of this silent epidemic.

By addressing the root causes, raising awareness, and improving access to healthcare services, we can work towards stemming the tide of kidney disease in India and ensuring a healthier future for all. The clock is ticking, but there is still time to defuse the situation before it's too late. While both government and private investment is being stepped up, in a country of 1.4 billion facilities will always be inadequate unless we Priorities Preventive Measures!

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PRT: All Subjects
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P.E.T
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A-2, Mayur Vihar Phase-III, Delhi-110096, Ph: 22613539.
REQUIRE
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Apply on the prescribed application form available at school office on all working days during office hours from 24 February to 12 March 2025. Principal

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PGT - English, Physics, Accountancy, Economics, Maths, Computer Science, PET *(1 Each Subject)*
TGT - English, Maths, Science, Social Science, PET *(1 Each Subject)*
Assistant Teachers - (Nos 5)

Qualification age etc as per Delhi Admin Norms eligible candidate fluent in English to apply on the prescribed form available in school at reception Upto 06.03.2025 along with attested testimonials and passport size photo between 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
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Walk-in-interview on 23/02/2025 from 9:30 a.m. onwards at GANGA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, Hiran Kudna, Rohtak Road, New Delhi-110041 (walking distance from Ghevra Metro Station)
Contact: 8588865023, 8588865010, 9899975350, 9654292929
E-mail id: hrd@gangagroupofinstitutions.com

ROSARY SR. SEC. SCHOOL
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REQUIRES:

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Special Educator- PRT	-ONE
NTT	- ONE

For all the posts candidates should be from recognised Board/Universities. **Fluency in English, advance** knowledge of Computer & minimum two years of experience is a must.
Salary & Qualifications as per Government norms.
APPLICATION FORM BE COLLECTED FROM SCHOOL RECEPTION FROM 24th February to 12th March 2025 BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M. (ON ALL WORKING DAYS ONLY)

Sharda International School
Affiliated to CBSE
Add.: Shiv Nagar, Pataudi Road (Landmark- Before Sector 10A Gurugram)
Ph.: 0124-2974748, 8376073000
Email.: info@shardainternationalschool.in

REQUIRES
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WALK IN INTERVIEW
18th & 19th Feb. 2025
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www.shardainternationalschool .in

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Interested Candidates may send their profile with in 10 days of release of this advertisement to
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3. **PRT's - All Subjects.**
4. **NTT's | 5. IT TECHNICIAN**
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Please send your detailed CV with self attested testimonials within 15 days from the date of advertisement **through E-mail** addressing to **Manager, THE SAMARTH SCHOOL, Main Wazirabad Road, Delhi-93**
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- **Administration:** Front Desk Executive, IT Manager, Maintenance Manager, Transport Manager, Marketing Manager, Admission Counsellor, Tele Caller
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Candidates Residing in Gurugram should only apply
Walk-ins on 22nd & 23rd Feb
between **9am to 1pm**
Kindly Email your CV at
tvs69hr@gmail.com
Contact: 9560822881
https://maps.app.goo.gl/HYNgHtUGZTGTkbu09

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Having Excellent Communication Skills & Computer Knowledge:
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2. **NTT 3. Art & Craft 4. Part Time Coaches: Chess, Judo, Gym**
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Qualifications as per CBSE norms. Candidates must possess excellent communication & IT skills with an experience of minimum 2-3 years in public schools of repute. Apply within a week on prescribed form available in the school office/ website.

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D) **ACADEMIC COORDINATOR (IX-XII)** (Min.15 Yrs. PGT Exp.)
E) **OFFICE ASSISTANT** (Fee / Admin)
F) **FRONT DESK OFFICER**

Walk-in Interview On 23rd February, 2025 (Sunday) From 8:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Fluency in English & Computer Knowledge is a must. Appear with Resume, Certificates & latest PP size Photo.

Cambridge Foundation School
Rajouri Garden Extn.
New Delhi - 110027
Ph: 41001112 / 3 / 4
Mob: 9599385666, 67

REQUIRED
1) **P.R.T-** All Subjects
2) **T.G.T.-** English, Computer Sc.
3) **P.G.T.-** English
4) **ATL Coach**

Walk in Interviews between 9:00 am to 12.00 noon from 17th Feb. to 28th Feb. 2025
email: careers@cambridgefoundationschool.com

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Applicants should have good communication skills and qualification as per CBSE norms/DOE. Download APPLICATION FORM from **www.snps.edu.in** and E-mail to: **career@snps.edu.in** OR post to: Edn. Deptt., Sant Nirankari Administrative Block, Nirankari Chowk,Burari Road,Delhi-110009 Last date for submission of application form is **25.02.2025**.Apply in only ONE school, where you seek employment.(ONLY DOWNLOADED FILLED FORMS ACCEPTED)

REQUIRED Female English Speaking PRT , TGT (all subjects) Special Educator, Music, Art & Craft, Librarian, PET (Female), IT. "Krishna Model School", old roshan pura Najafgarh, ND-43 # 9643516685 Em :- pankil_nkps@yahoo.com

BJS Public School D-4 Faiz Rd Karol Bagh, ND-05 require PGT Physical Education, Economics Psychology, Commerce, Maths; TGT: Maths, Sanskrit; Primary Teacher (All Sub); Montessori Teacher; Part-Time: Cricket & Martial Arts Coaches, Theater; Music Instrumental Western Chordophones & Aerophones; Nurse. Fluent in English & Strong Academic Background is must. Send CV's (within 7 days) to Whats'App 7428591768 or by Mail: hrbjsps@gmail.com

ST. Giri Sr. Sec. School Sec-3, Avantika Rd, Rohini Delhi-85 Req. (Female) TGT (Eng), PGT (Acc.), PGT (Bio) Interview:- 21 & 27 FEB 8.30am. 011-43549143

TEACHER

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Khatushyamji Road, Reengus
Dist. Sikar-332404 (M) : 7665006127
Email ID:-schoolmrps@gmail.com
Website : mrpschool.in
(Affiliated to C.B.S.E)
REQUIRES
PGT : English, Physics, Economics Accountancy, Busi. Studies, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physical Ed.
TGT : English, Science, Social Studies, Computer. P.T.I
PRT : English, Maths, Science, EVS, Music & Dance, Mother Teacher
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REQ. Executive Assistant & Sr. HR Executive Diamond Magazines. Exp. 2-3 yrs, Sal.15-20K. Contact: X-30, Okhla Ph-II, ND, EM: career@dpb.in # 9999044500

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Area / Zone	Contact Person	Mobile No.
Ghaziabad	Sunil Srivastava	99994 99496
West Delhi + Dwarka + Gurgaon	Aman Pasricha	93126 33518
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Nights become warmer as min temp goes up, light rain likely

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The city experienced a rise in the minimum temperature by 1-2 degree Celsius within 24 hours as nights became warmer.

On Tuesday, the minimum temperature reached 13.2 degree Celsius, two degrees above normal and the highest minimum this year. The India Meteorological Department forecasts it might reach 14 degrees Celsius in the next 48 hours, despite the potential for light rain on Wednesday and Thursday.

The city recorded 11.2 degree Celsius on Monday. The previous highest minimum was 12°C on Feb 13. Wednesday's temperature is expected between 11-13 degree Celsius.

"A western disturbance is influencing the region, leading to cloudiness. This has led to a rise in the minimum. There are chances of light rain in the city towards Wednesday night. The main activity is expected on Thursday, with mostly light rain in Delhi. Some isolated parts of NCR may even record a moderate spell," Mahesh Palawat, vice-president of meteorology and climate change at Skymet, said, indicating that temperatures could decrease by 1-2 degree Celsius afterwards as cooler northwesterly winds return.

Delhi's air quality remained in the poor zone. The 24-hour average AQI was 209, improving from 231 the previous day.

5 men forced to sing national anthem: FIR against SHO stayed

Vineet.Upadhyay
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A sessions court has stayed a magistrate court's order to register an FIR against the SHO of a police station in a case where five Muslim men were allegedly assaulted and forced to sing the national anthem and Vande Mataram during the 2020 Delhi riots.

The court of additional sessions judge Sameer Bajpai, taking note of the submissions of the counsel appearing for Shailendra Tomar, former SHO of Jyoti Nagar police station during Feb-March 2020, passed the order on Feb 1.

On Jan 18, the magistrate court directed the registration of the FIR after one Mohammed Wasim claimed he was among the five people who were allegedly assaulted and forced to sing the national anthem on Feb 24, 2020. One of the men, Faizan (23), died after the incident, following which his mother Kismatun moved HC seeking a court-monitored SIT probe. A purported video clip of the incident also went viral on social media. In July last year, HC transferred the matter to CBI.

While ordering the FIR against Tomar under IPC sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 342 (wrongful confinement), and 506 (criminal intimidation), the magistrate court had termed the police action a "hate crime".

Tomar then moved the revision petition against the Jan 18 order, stating it was a case of "double jeopardy" – prosecuting a person more than once for the same offence or filing a second FIR for the same incident. He argued before the court that an FIR in 2020 was already registered at Bhajanpura police station over the incident.

"The trial court grossly erred in ignoring that while transferring the investigation of the case, vide order dated July 23, 2024, Delhi High Court was pleased to direct CBI to investigate the case properly and also against the police officials. As such, the trial court was not competent to order the registration of another FIR when the same allegations are already sub judice before HC in the writ petition filed by Ms Kismatun, mother of the deceased," Tomar's counsel submitted in the sessions court.

The counsel said besides making several errors, the magistrate court failed to appreciate that no FIR could be ordered to be registered when the facts of the case were already in the knowledge of the complainant and no evidence had to be gathered through the police.

SC dismisses Sukesh's plea seeking shift to K'taka jail

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar's plea seeking transfer from Delhi's Mandoli jail to a prison in his home state Karnataka or a nearby state.

A bench of Justices Bela Trivedi and P B Varale not only rejected his plea but also questioned him for approaching the court repeatedly and making the society "unsafe" by his conduct.

The bench said, "He made society so unsafe. Some people should also think about the other side. See what will happen to the victims. Every time, you are harping about the rights of the accused. Who will think of the victims?"

The court also noted that Chandrashekhar "abused" the judicial process as he kept filing petitions despite his pleas being rejected every time. "There is a limit to the abuse of the process of law. You have money and that is why you keep filing such petitions," the bench said.

The court had in 2022 shifted him from Tihar jail to Mandoli jail in Delhi after the NCT govt had contended that Sukesh Chandrashekhar was operating from inside Tihar Jail and he had even called up some Supreme Court judges from jail impersonating the law minister and asking them to pass a favourable order.

Dr SK Vasal Award for Excellence in Crop Hybrid Research

Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Research (TAAS), Pusa Campus, New Delhi invites applications for **Dr SK Vasal Award for Excellence in Crop Hybrid Research (2025).** The award instituted in honour of Dr S K Vasal, the World Food Prize laureate, is open to scientists for their contributions to research and development of crop hybrids in India. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. one lakh, a citation and the plaque. The last date for receipt of applications is 31 March, 2025
For the procedure and the application form, please visit TAAS Website: **www.taas.in**

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E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-5

The last date of submission of the E-Tender for "Procurement of 500 MVA 400/220 KV transformer along with NIFPS at 400 KV Substation Kashipur" against Tender. Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-13/2024-25 is hereby extended upto **03.03.2025 15:30 Hrs.** For more details please visit e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2024_PTCU4_77412_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.
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Ms. Shilpi Sathi, Accounts Officer, PGIMER, Chandigarh on e-mail at pension.pgi@gmail.com or by post at the above address in an envelope superscribed **"PGI PENSION ADALAT".** Grievances received within 90 days from the issue of this advertisement shall be considered in this Adalat. Format for filing of grievances may be downloaded from the website www.pgimer.edu.in.
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Email ID:- nccdteuk@gmail.com
Telephone No-0135-2976853
Last Date for Submission of Applications- **13 Mar 2025**
Address:- NCC Directorate Uttarakhand Bungalow No P-4, Nagnath Road, Ghunghora Cantt, Dehradun (Uttarakhand) Pin-248141
Applicants can also scan this QR Code to fill the application
Note:- This Directorate advertisement notice on the subject dated 15 February 2025 may please be treated as cancelled.

COASTAL AQUACULTURE AUTHORITY

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying,
5th floor, Integrated Office Complex for
Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department
Veterinary Hospital Road, Fanepet, Nandanam,
Chennai - 600 035.

The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (CAA) is an Autonomous Body functioning under the Administrative Control of Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India invites application for filling up of the following posts on deputation basis:

Sl.No.	Name of Post	No. of post	Pay scale of the post	Method of Recruitment
1.	Director (Technical)	1 (one)	**Level - 13 in 7th CPC Pay Matrix** (pre - revised pay scale of Rs.37,400 - 67,000 + Rs.8,700 Grade Pay in PB - 4)	Deputation basis
2.	Superintendent	1 (one)	**Level - 7 in 7th CPC Pay Matrix** (pre - revised pay scale of Rs.9,300 - 34,800 + Rs.4,600 GP in PB - 2)	Deputation basis
3.	Private Secretary	2 (Two)	**Level - 7 in 7th CPC Pay Matrix** (pre-revised pay scale of Rs.9,300 - 34,800 + Rs.4,600 GP in PB - 2)	Deputation or absorption basis
4.	Accountant	1 (one)	**Level - 6 in 7th CPC Pay Matrix** (pre-revised pay scale of Rs.9,300 - 34,800 + Rs.4,200 GP in PB - 2)	Deputation basis

For more details of the posts and eligibility conditions, please visit our website **https://caa.gov.in** The last date of receipt of the application is 45 (Forty Five) days from the date of publication of the vacancy in the Employment News.
Secretary
CAA, Chennai

Office of the Chief Executive Officer, State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA)
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE
Indira Nagar Forest Colony, Dehradun (Uttarakhand)-248 006
Phone No. 0135-2768712, 2760170, www.wmduk.gov.in, aceoslna-wmd.uk@gov.in

No.: 1535/1-2(SLNA)/MTE/RFP/L&D **Dated: 18th February, 2025**

CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)
Mid Term Evaluation - Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Documentation

With reference to tender notice no. 1422/1-2(SLNA)/MTE/RFP/L&D dated 6th February, 2025, please be informed that due to technical error, Tender ID no.2025_WMD_80051_1 related to the above mentioned title invited by The State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA), Watershed Management Directorate (WMD), Indira Nagar, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, could not be published in time and is now available for download on **https://uktenders.gov.in.** The tender validity has been extended till 8th March 2025 while other conditions remaining the same.
Key Information: The Terms of Reference (ToR), shortlisting criteria, and additional details are available at **www.wmduk.gov.in**.
Additional Chief Executive Officer, State Level Nodal Agency
Watershed Management Directorate, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

IDEMI
Organised by IDEMI Mumbai Ministry MSME Govt.of India
Government Certificate Course on
Artificial Intelligence for Legal Professionals
Course Duration 4 Days Timing -10.00 am -1.00 pm
(ONLINE)
Course Dates- 2,9,16,23 March 2025
Email ID: training@idemi.org Website: www. Idemi.org Ph.:[022] 2405 0301/2/3/4
Contents:- AI Basics Legal research and predictive analysis, E-Discovery, due diligence, Legal research with tools, Contract drafting and risk detection with CLM (contract lifecycle management), Automating NDA and legal document analysis, Fraud detection, corporate law, bankruptcy law, and litigation analytics, judicial analytics, Regulations and policies, Ai in smart contracts and legal regulations.
Fees-5000+18% GST (fees are not refundable)
After successful completion certificate will be issued.
For- Lawyers, Legal Professionals, Students, and Interested candidates. Interested Candidates
Call for details between 10 am to 6 pm
Contact-9403566219,8007765693,8275181503,9869087617
QR Code for Registration

सीएसआईआर - राष्ट्रीय वांतरिक्ष प्रयोगशालाएं
Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
NATIONAL AEROSPACE LABORATORIES
पी बी सं. 1779, एचएएल एयरपोर्ट रोड, कोडिहल्ली, बेंगलूरु - 560 017
P B No. 1779, HAL Airport Road, Kodihalli, Bengaluru - 560017. India
ISO:9001:2015 Certified

ADVT. No. 1/ 2025

CSIR-NAL, a constituent laboratory of CSIR, New Delhi invites application for engagement of **Specialist Consultant Posts,** as per the details given below;

Post No	Name of the Consultancy Service	No. of post	Experience in relevant field	Term	Qualification & Age
1	Specialist Consultant for SARAS MkII Aircraft Weight Optimisation	One	Minimum 20 years of experience in Aircraft design and weight optimization	200hrs OR One Year Whichever is earlier	PhD/ MPhil/ M.E/ M.Tech./ MS in Aircraft Design / Aerospace / Aeronautical / Mechanical Engg. or equivalent. Not above 64 years at the time of application
2	Specialist Consultant for SARAS-Mk II Aircraft Aerodynamics Configuration	One	Minimum 20-years of experience in Aerodynamic design configuration, wind tunnel testing, design optimization.	200hrs OR One Year Whichever is earlier	PhD/ MPhil/ M.E/ M.Tech./ MS in Aircraft Design/ Aerospace/Aeronautical Engg. or equivalent. Not above 64 years at the time of application

For complete details of Advertisement please visit CSIR-NAL website **www.nal.res.in** OR CPP Portal: **https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app**
The Last date of receiving offline /Online (by E-Mail) application is **18th March 2025.**
Sd/-
Controller of Administration

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRIORTY OF DELHI DEPATMENT OF TRAINING AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MUNI MAYA RAM MARG, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034 (SECRETARIAT BRANCH)

Applications are hereby invited for the post of Controller of Finance, in Netaji Subhas University of Technology, Delhi in PB-IV (3700-6700) with Grade Pay of Rs. 10,000/- (Pre-revised)/Level-14 (as per 7th CPC) on deputation basis. Applicants should be serving Government servant from organized group "A" service viz. Delhi Accounts Service/Indian Civil Accounts Service/Indian Revenue Service/the Indian Railway Accounts Service/the Indian Defence Accounts/Indian Audit Accounts. For further details refer **www.tte.delhigovt.nic.in**.
Sd/-
Deputy Director (Sectt. Branch)
Department of Training and Tech. Education
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0583/24-25

MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
STPI
Government of India is commited for technological development in West Bengal
"The proper use of technology at the right time empowers society with new strength. Today, in India, some form of technological solutions are being developed for every stage of life."
Shri Narendra Modi
Inauguration of STPI Incubation Facility at Salt Lake, Kolkata
Benefits for the IT companies & Startups of the region
Employment opportunities to local youth
Boost investment for economic development of the state
Nurture tech startup ecosystem for budding entrepreneurs
Encourage Innovation, IPR & Product Development
Growth of software exports from the state
Next Generation Incubation Space, High Speed Internet, Data centre & Cloud services
19th February 2025
Software Technology Parks of India
Block - DP, Plot No. 5/1, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700091, West Bengal

Bennett & Coleman
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AhmedabadTimes BangaloreTimes BombayTimes CalcuttaTimes ChennaiTimes DelhiTimes GurgaonTimes HyderabadTimes NoidaTimes PuneTimes

TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

MANN DENIES KEJRIWAL REPLACING HIM AS PUNJAB CM, CALLS OPPN CLAIMS 'RUMOUR'

AMRITPAL SEEKS HC NOD TO ATTEND LS, CLAIMS PLOT TO GET HIS SEAT DECLARED VACANT

Hamas, Hezbollah banners at Kerala fest trigger row

BJP Seeks Legal Action; Bid To Communalise Issue, Says Cong

Nijeesh.Narayanan
@timesofindia.com

Palakkad: A cultural festival procession in Thrithala town in Kerala's Palakkad featured photos of slain Hamas and Hezbollah leaders, fuelling heated debate among political parties and on social media. On Sunday morning, banners bearing images of deceased Hamas leaders Ismail Haniyeh and Yahya Sinwar, and Hezbollah's Hassan Nasrallah, also deceased, were displayed by a group of people during a procession during Desholsavam, a local cultural festival.

Images of Hamas and Hezbollah functionaries were displayed during a cultural festival Sunday

BJP organised protest events across Palakkad while the party's state unit demanded the state govt act strongly, even as Congress alleged the saffron party was communalising the issue. BJP approached the police with a complaint but a case is yet to be registered.

The procession, featuring elephants, performers and musical groups, marked the final day of the week-long festival in which people from all walks of life, regardless of faith and political affiliation, took part. Three separate boards featuring Hamas and Hezbollah men were displayed by individuals positioned on three elephants.

"During past festivals, boards featuring international leaders like Yasser Arafat and Che Guevara were exhibited, reflecting the contemporary issues of those times. The latest boards correspond to the ongoing discussions on the Palestine-Israel conflict. The matter holds no communal significance," said festival committee president Muhammed Koppath, also a Congress worker.

Festival committee secretary KP Sreenivasan, a local CPM neta, said: "The fest is a secular gathering. We noticed the boards only when the visuals went viral. It was done by one of the groups and not with the committee's consent."

Local BJP worker Unnikrishnan Mezhathoor alleged that a group of people with extremist links was behind the incident and Congress and CPM were supporting them in hope of votes in Muslim-majority assembly segment.

BJP state president K Surendran has already demanded action against the organisers.

Congress functionary and former Thrithala MLA VT Balram said Sangh Parivar was using the issue for its anti-Muslim hate campaigns.

Ratan Tata's 'Deep Connection' With The Facility 'Formalised'

Tatas to inject ₹500cr in Mumbai's Breach Candy hosp to boost infra

Reeba.Zachariah
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Tata Group, India's largest conglomerate, is set to expand its presence in healthcare through a Rs 500-crore contribution to Breach Candy Hospital, a move that will bring the elite 275-bed multispeciality SoBo hospital within its ambit of influence.

The funding will position the $165-bn Tata Group as the hospital's largest financial backer, enabling it to add three representatives to the present 14-member board of trustees. Group chairman N Chandrasekaran will replace veteran banker Deepak Parekh as chairman of Breach Candy Hospital Trust from Oct 1, 2025. The hospital will retain its name, though the Tata brand will be incorporated in some form, with one possibility being "Breach Candy, a Tata Sons associate". The funding is expected to support infrastructure and technological improvements at the facility that has traditionally been favoured by the rich and famous, more so by those with 'old money'.

TOI EXCLUSIVE

Breach Candy managing trustee Uday Kilachand said the "deep connection" that Ratan Tata had with the facility has "now evolved" and the Tatas have "formalised" the association. This is Tata Group's third healthcare project in Mumbai after Tata Memorial Centre in Parel for cancer research and treatment and an animal hospital set up in Mahalaxmi last year.

Breach Candy, which introduced India's first MRI facility in 1998, was established in 1946 by European Hospital Trust with financial support from European companies operating in pre-Independence India, such as Unilever, Forbes & Crompton Greaves. These companies have maintained ties with the hospital through their representatives who are on the board.

Designed by British architect Claude Batley as a 25-bed nursing home, its ownership transitioned to Breach Candy Hospital Trust, registered under Indian Trusts Act and Section 8 of the Companies Act.

Former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee was here for his knee surgery. Actor Amitabh Bachchan's admission in July 1982 followed injuries sustained during the filming of Coolie. The facility also witnessed the passing of Reliance Group founder Dhirubhai Ambani in July 2002, 13 days after he suffered a stroke. In Oct 2024, former Tata Group chairman Ratan Tata passed away at the hospital due to age-related ailments.

"Ratan Tata maintained a deep connection with Breach Candy hospital, both as an admirer and benefactor. He relied on the hospital's doctors and nursing staff for his personal healthcare needs. Through Tata Trusts, he provided financial assistance to the hospital for establishing facilities and acquiring medical equipment, albeit on an informal basis. However, the relationship has now evolved as Tata Sons has formalised its association with the hospital through an official understanding," said Kilachand.

Parekh will continue as trustee even after Chandrasekaran takes over. Other notable trustees include Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra; Jamshyd Godrej of Godrej & Boyce; Rajashree Birla, mother of Aditya Birla Group chairman Kumar Birla; M Pallonji Group director and Tata Trusts trustee Mehli Mistry; Pallon Mistry of Shapoorji Pallonji Group; Hindustan Unilever CEO Rohit Jawa; and former TCS CEO S Ramadorai. Ramadorai and Mehli, who serve as independent board members, will not be counted among Tata Group's representatives.

Breach Candy CEO Anirudh Kohli outlined that the funding by Tatas would be used to enhance the hospital's infrastructure, including state-of-the-art equipment and technology. The hospital presently comprises three buildings; plans include to construct an additional tower.

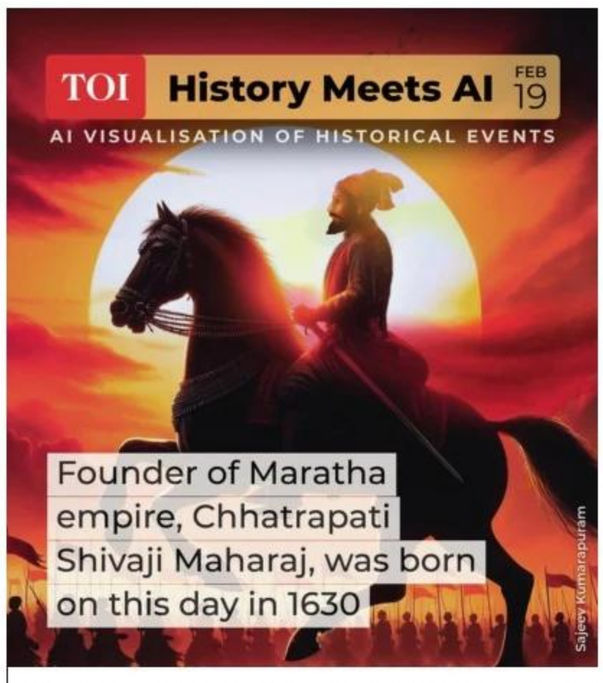
Tata Group's investment coincides with Adani Group's plans to construct a 1,000-bed hospital and medical college in Kandivli, marking its entry into Mumbai's healthcare sector. It also places Tata alongside other conglomerates like Reliance, Hinduja, Birla, and Raheja in Mumbai's healthcare industry.

SoBo HOSPITAL TO RETAIN NAME

- **Set up in 1946 by European Hospital Trust,** Breach Candy is a 275-bed multispecialty facility with a prestigious reputation
- Its famous **patients** include **Vajpayee, Ratan Tata, Dhirubhai Ambani & Lata Mangeshkar**
- Hospital to retain its name, though **Tata brand will be incorporated in some form**
- **Chandrasekaran** will replace Deepak Parekh as **chairman of trust in Oct** this year

- **Funding** to be used to **enhance infra,** including state-of-the-art equipment & technology
- Move **coincides with plans announced by Adani group** to set up a large hosp in Mumbai

The elite SoBo hospital has traditionally been favoured by the rich and famous, more so by those with 'old money'. The funding will position the $165-bn Tata Group as its largest financial backer, enabling it to add three representatives to the present 14-member board of trustees. This is the Tata Group's third healthcare project in Mumbai after cancer centre in Parel and an animal hospital set up in Mahalaxmi last year


TOI
History Meets AI
FEB 19
AI VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS
Founder of Maratha empire, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, was born on this day in 1630
Sajesh Kalyanaraman

Out on picnic, 4 Guj students drown

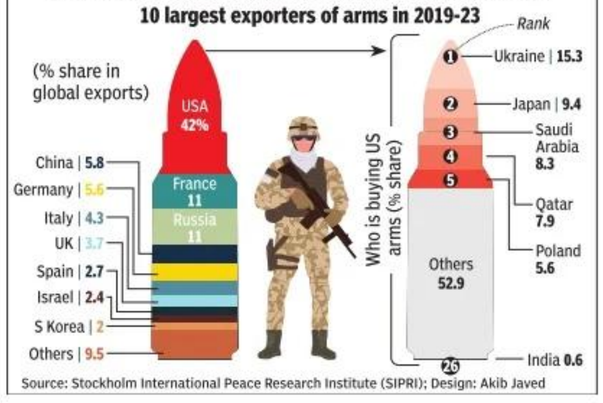
Four college students aged 19 to 22 from Daman drowned in the Kolak River during a picnic in Kaprada taluka of Gujarat's Valsad district on Tuesday. The 21-year-old rickshaw puller they had hired tried unsuccessfully to rescue the students but started drowning. Villagers saved him. Meanwhile, in another tragedy, an 18-year student from Ahmedabad Polytechnic drowned in Khapri River in Dang district. He was taking part in a nature camp. TNN

STATOISTICS A slice of life in numbers — By Richa Gandhi

WHY US WANTS TO SELL MORE ARMS TO INDIA

US remains the world's top arms exporter with Ukraine as its biggest buyer. But the US is now pushing for stronger defence ties with India — the country that currently ranks 26th among US's arms importers

10 largest exporters of arms in 2019-23



Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI); Design: Akib Javed

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TARUN KUMAR S/o Late GANGA RAM R/o 58/DS/2, Near OL Shiv Mandir, O.F. Muradnagar Ghaziabad U.P.-201206 have changed my daughter name to AVNI MEHRA for all future purposes.

I Lavneesh Vij S/o Anil Kumar Vij R/o Tower-CM3 Flat 304 Supertech Capetown Sector-74 Noida have changed my name to Lovneesh Vij for all purpose

I, Mohan Kumar S/o Sh. Vijay Pal Singh, 2201, 21st Floor, Tower 1D, Skardi Green, Golf Links, NH24, Ghaziabad 201002 have changed my name to Mohan Kumar Tomar for all future purposes.

LOST & FOUND

I Rakesh Kumar Bhargava, S/o Amar Nath Bhargava, R/o A2/23 Safdarjung Enclave, have lost papers of my property - B 70/4 (shed - 4), DSIIDC Complex, Lawrence Road Delhi - 110035. If found contact-991039754

GENERAL

I, Navneet Kumar S/o Brajesh Kumar, R/o A36 Preet Vihar, Delhi-92, affirms that Navneet Kumar and Navneet Gupta is same and one person for all purposes.

tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
Tender Notice

The President, Orchid Petals Resident Association (O.P.R.A.). Invites The Tender For Supply, Installation, And Commissioning of 75 Elevators (Replacement of Existing Elevators) For Various Vendors, Having Minimum 20 Years of Experience & Minimum Turnover Of 500 Cr. The Detailed Tender Document May Be Obtained From.

Orchid Petals Resident Association
Tower No. 4, Opra, Sector-49
Gurugram, Haryana 122018
Mob: 0124-4039158/9643804290
Email:orchidpetalsopra@gmail.com

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE IV ADDITIONAL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE BANGALORE RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU
Ex Petition No. 16/2023
In
O.S. No. 1450/2005
BETWEEN : Raghava Reddy K ...Decree Holder
AND: Smt. Gita Siddartha ....Judgment Debtor
CAUSE NOTICE TO THE JUDGMENT DEBTOR
Smt. Gita Siddartha W/o Dr. Siddartha Aged about 74 years, No. 13, Brunton Road Cross, Bengaluru 560025. Presently at No. 801, Arunachal, Barakhamba Road, Post Box No. 589, New Delhi -110 001.
Whereas the Decree Holder above named have filed the above Execution petition against the above said Judgment Debtor under Order 21 Rule 11 of Code of Civil Procedure in O.S. No. 1450/2005 vide Judgment & Decree dated 21-07-2007. The JDR above named are hereby directed to appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or through the pleader **on the 17th day of March 2025 at 11.00 AM** to defend the above case, failing which the matter will be heard ex-parte and decided accordingly.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy.No. 108/1, Doddagubbi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru District measuring 2 acres 37 and ½ guntas bounded on :
East by : Water Channel, **West by :** Panchayath Road, **North by :** land of Kempaiah, **South by :** Land of Venkatappa & Munivenkatappa.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on this the 12.02.2025.
By Order of the Court,
Chief Ministerial Officer,
Senior Civil Judge Court,
Bengaluru Rural Dist., Bengaluru.
Advocate for Decree Holder :
L.V. Manjunatha Reddy, Advocate

TENDERS

इंडिया एक्ज़िम बैंक India Exim Bank
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Export-Import Bank of India invites expression of Interest for Engagement of Lender's Independent Engineer [LIE] for the Rehabiliation Project of road N280/N281 between Tica, Buzi, and Nova Sofala in Mozambique.

Details are available on: https://www.eximbankindia.in/lines-of-credit-tenders.aspx

All subsequent Addenda/ Corrigenda shall be notified on Bank's website.

THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.
Head Office: Oriental House, A-25/27, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi–110002
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Separate Sealed tenders are invited in Two Bid System for the following works: **Tender No.: HO/Estate/2025/01, Name of work:** Major Civil Repairs (External) Work to be carried out at Company Owned 20 No. Residential Flats & Allotted Parking Space at B3B, Lawrence Road, Keshavpuram, New Delhi, **EMD (Rs.):** 2,34,181/-, **Cost of Tender Document (Rs.): 2,000/-.** The tender forms may be obtained from the Estate Dept. on the above mentioned address, on payment of cost of tender in the form of Demand Draft favouring **"The Oriental Insurance Company Limited"** payable at Delhi from **19.02.2025 to 07.03.2025** except Saturday, Sunday & Holiday between **10:00 AM and 3:00 PM** and shall be received back on or before **07.03.2025 up to 5:30 PM** and will be opened on **10.03.2025 at 11:30 AM.** The tender forms can be downloaded from the Website **www.orientalinsurance.org.in.** In such cases, the contractor shall deposit the tender cost as given above, in the form of Demand Draft favoring as mentioned above, along with Technical Bid. The tenderer may verify pre-qualification criteria and other details before purchase of tender. Kindly mention the tender No. on all the envelopes of bids.

Place: New Delhi
Date: 19.02.2025
IRDA Reg. No. 556

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (Estate)
CIN: U66010DL1947GOI007158

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public that **Fortis Flt. Lt. Rajan Dhall Hospital, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi** will be disposing of all medical records of patients **up to December 31, 2017.** Patients who have any concerns regarding this matter are encouraged to contact the address listed below within **30 days** of the issuance of this notice.

Medical Records Department
Fortis Flt. Lt. Rajan Dhall Hospital
Sector - B, Pocket 1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070
Ph: 011 - 42776222, Extn.: 5249

Fortis Vasant Kunj

JAYPEE INFRATECH — TENDER NOTICE

SOLAR POWER PLANTS at YAMUNA EXPRESSWAY

Jaypee Infratech Limited ("JIL") is inviting sealed tenders from experienced parties as per the following details:

- **Name of Works :** Providing & Installation of On-Grid Roof Top Solar power plants at Toll Plazas of Jewar (125 kWp), Mathura (125 kWp) & Agra (140 kWp) along Yamuna Expressway, U.P.
- **Tender Fee (Free of Cost):** Bidders shall download tender documents from JIL's website (http://jaypeeinfratech.com/tender.html) from 19.02.2025. 2.00 PM onwards.
- **Eligibility Criteria & EMD :** Shall be as per tender documents
- **Last date for receipt of bids :** Up to 04.03.2025 by 7.00 PM (IST)
- **Address for Bid submission :** Contracts Division, J Block, Jaypee Infratech Limited, Sector-128, Noida, 201304, UP.

Or, through email at tendering@jilindia.in
Ph. No. 0120-4609482/7065656115

AMRAPALI SILICON CITY AOA
INVITATION FOR BIDS
Amrapali Silicon City AOA invites sealed bids from experienced agencies for the STP services:
Security Services:
- **Total man Power Required:** Approx 130 personnel
- **Eligibility:** Agencies with minimum of 10 years of experience in providing Security services at residential serving Societies.

Total annual turnover above 100 Cr.
Bid Details:
- **Types of Bids:**
  - Technical Bid
  - Financial Bid (Sealed Cover)
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
  - Proven track record with relevant exp.
  - Compliance with statutory requirements (EPF, ESI, GST, and Labor Laws).
  - Adequate infrastructure and trained personnel.

Submission Guidelines:
All bids must be submitted via Post/Courier. Hand-delivered bids will not be accepted.
Important Dates:
Last Date for Submission: 28/02/2025
Bid Opening Date: To be informed via call/email.
Location: Amrapali Silicon City, Sector 76, Noida
For Further Details, Contact:
amrapalimaintenance@gmail.com
8447321115

AMRAPALI SILICON CITY AOA
INVITATION FOR BIDS
Amrapali Silicon City AOA invites sealed bids from experienced agencies for the STP services:
Operation & Maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plants (STP)
- **Capacity: 750 KLD, 550 KLD & 480 KLD**
- **Scope: Operation, maintenance, and compliance with environmental norms.**

Bid Details:
- **Types of Bids:**
  - Technical Bid
  - Financial Bid (Sealed Cover)
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
  - Proven track record with relevant exp.
  - Compliance with statutory requirements (EPF, ESI, GST, and Labor Laws).
  - Adequate infrastructure and trained personnel.

Submission Guidelines:
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Important Dates:
Last Date for Submission: 28/02/2025
Bid Opening Date: To be informed via call/email.
Location: Amrapali Silicon City, Sector 76, Noida
For Further Details, Contact:
amrapalimaintenance@gmail.com
8447321115

SCOPE PROMOTING EXCELLENCE
STANDING CONFERENCE OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
(An Apex body of Public Enterprises)
SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092
Ph: 22458176, Fax: 011-22501185
"E-TENDER NOTICE"

On behalf of Constituents of SCOPE Minar, online e-tenders are invited from eligible reputed, specialized Contractors as per eligibility criteria specified in the NIT for the following works at SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092.

1. **SITC of RECD System of Chakr Shield/ Platino make 02X1010 KVA DG Sets at SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092.**

For details please visit SCOPE's website **www.scopeonline.in** & **https://scope.ewizard.in** or contract at above mentioned address. **For e-tendering support:- 9355030630, 9355030607.** All interested bidders are advised to keep visiting the above website on regular basis for any further updates like extension of dates (if any) etc.

General Manager (Tech. & HR)

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British tourist dies while trekking near Dharamshala

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kullu: A British tourist died Monday after sustaining injuries while trekking with a friend in the Dhauladhar mountains near Dharamshala. The two Britons — Thomas Harry and Robert John Emerton — were unaware of the Kangra administration's ban on high-altitude trekking in the winter season, police said.

The duo arrived in Dharamshala on Feb 14 and went for a trek from Dharamkot to Triund on Feb 16. After crossing Triund, they reached the snowline and during their descent via Thathri, Thomas Harry fell off a cliff, badly injuring himself. Emerton trekked down to Thathri and sought help from police and locals.

A team of cops and State Disaster Response Force was immediately dispatched to help the injured tourist. The team brought Thomas back for medical treatment, but he succumbed Monday. The UK High Commission was informed.

Man's charred body found days before wife's rape case hearing

Mohammad.Dilshad
@timesofindia.com

Agra: For months, he fought for justice for his wife who had been kidnapped, kept in captivity and gangraped. Then, days before he secured a hearing in court, his family found his burnt body.

Police said on Tuesday that the remains of the 40-year-old man were discovered in a field in Mainpuri district even as a local court had scheduled a hearing of the case on Thursday. The man had accused the former village head, Bhola Yadav, of pressuring him to withdraw the case. His family has alleged murder and filed a police complaint.

Mainpuri ASP Rahul Mithas said, "The body was sent for autopsy soon after it was found. A thorough investigation is underway, and necessary action will be taken accordingly."

The survivor told **TOI**, "The village head had called me to his place on the pretext of cooking a meal and raped me along with his two associates. It was in June 2022. The next day, when I was going to the police station to file a complaint, he kidnapped me and kept me captive at his house for four months and 10 days. We filed a case against him in the local court. He began pressuring my husband to settle, but we refused to do so. He has also been threatening to kill my brother."

She added that she was freed from captivity after repeated pleading from her husband and her family.

Mahendra Bhardwaj, the gang rape survivor's lawyer, said, "The case was initially registered under sections 376 (rape) and 364 (kidnapping), but the investigating officer later removed the rape charge from the FIR. After our protests, the court had ordered police to add gang-rape sections to the case. That case is ongoing."

The father of the man who died said, "My son's body was burnt so that his identity could not be established. A case regarding the gang rape of his wife is already in court. The accused men were pressuring us to settle outside court. The former village head also offered money to withdraw the case, but we refused."

Describing her ordeal, the survivor said, 'The village head had called me to his place on the pretext of cooking a meal and raped me along with his two associates. The next day, when I was going to police station to file a complaint, he kidnapped me and kept me captive at his house for four months and 10 days. We filed a case against him in the local court... He began pressuring my husband to settle, but we refused'

30 antique items stolen from Kangra Fort museum

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Shimla: Invaluable artefacts, including an antique revolver and several silver items, were stolen from a private museum at the historic Kangra Fort in Himachal Pradesh. The museum is run by erstwhile royal family of Kangra and displays artefacts that trace the history of Katoch dynasty, claimed to be the oldest in India.

Police said, thieves broke into the Maharaja Sansar Chandra Museum by removing one of its exhaust fans Sunday night and escaped with as many as 30 antique items. These included precious silver worship items, silver footwear, artefacts made from various metals, and silver trays.

"We are making a list of the stolen items after verifying the museum records," said Kangra ASP Bir Bahadur. "Prima facie we suspect involvement of two persons, but more could be involved. We are going through CCTV footage and expect to crack the case soon," he added.

17-year-old TN girl gang-raped by college students, 7 arrested

Sakthivel K | TNN

Coimbatore: A 17-year-old girl was gang-raped in Coimbatore on Sunday by seven college students, two of whom she had befriended on social media. The accused were arrested on Monday.

According to police sources, the survivor, who lives with her grandmother, went out on Sunday and didn't return home till late night. Her mobile phone was switched off. As her relatives couldn't locate her despite searching at various places, her father filed a missing report with police.

The girl returned home on Monday, after which cops questioned her. "She told us that she was quite active on social media and had befriended many people on Instagram and Snapchat. Recently, two of her social media friends invited her to meet them. On Sunday, one of them picked her up on a two-wheeler and took her to a room at Kuniyamuthur, where seven college students raped her," said an officer.

Kol man gets death for 7-month-old's rape

A Pocso court in Kolkata Tuesday sentenced a 34-year-old man to death for raping a seven-month-old infant on Nov 30 last year and leaving her fighting for life, terming the case "rarest of rare", reports **Dwaipayan Ghosh.** "There cannot be any other punishment that the court can think of," judge Indrila Mukherjee Mitra said in her verdict against Rajib Ghosh, a day after he was held guilty. Public prosecutor Bivas Chatterjee described the order as "historic" for Bengal's judicial system. "This is because we have not seen death sentence given in such cases until now. In this case, the girl survived," Chatterjee said. The prosecutor had sought death. "The defence lawyer repeatedly argued whether we could seek the death penalty since the girl survived. The law, however, does not state that the victim must die to pronounce a death sentence," Chatterjee argued. The sentencing comes less than three months — within 80 days — of the crime. The court also awarded compensation of Rs 10 lakh for the baby, who continues to be in critical state in RG Kar Hospital for over two months.

Teacher jailed for sexually harassing girls

A 58-year-old assistant headmaster of a govt high school in Tamil Nadu's Pudukottai district has been arrested and sent to jail for sexually harassing girl students. One of the victims called up Childline helpline (1098) on Feb 10 and narrated her ordeal, prompting a week-long inquiry by district child protection officer who lodged a police complaint against the accused for inappropriately touching girl students. Cops Tuesday presented the accused in Pudukottai mahila court, which sent him to judicial custody for 14 days under Pocso Act and Juvenile Justice (Protection of Children) Act. Pudukottai chief educational officer K Shanmugam told **TOI,** "Departmental action will be taken against the assistant headmaster. Stringent measures will be put in place to ensure such incidents don't recur." TNN

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How to ensure that your hard work leads to desired results

By Abhijit Bhaduri

Ever feel like your hard work goes unnoticed? Think of your progress updates like a cricket match's highlight reel. Skip the boring bits; showcase the sixes, the wickets, the game-changing moments. Your boss cares about impact, not activity. What runs did you score?

What partnerships did you build? Your progress updates are powerful tool to build mindshare of your boss.

Here are a few strategies to consider:

The weekly 'results report': Focus on the finish line

Instead of a laundry list of tasks, send a brief weekly 'results report.' For example, instead of saying, "I sent out 20 emails to potential clients," try, "Secured three meetings with potential clients, which could lead to $X in new business." See the difference? One focuses on activity, the other on impact. This is like showing your boss the trophy, not just describing the training regimen.

Monthly check-ins: Are we looking at the same map

A monthly summary and a quick chat with your manager can work wonders. Does your boss still agree that you are working on the right priorities? Are there any roadblocks you need help navigating? Think of this as a regular course correction, ensuring you are both headed in the same direction. A quick 30-minute meeting can save you hours of wasted effort down the road.

Meeting notes: Turning feedback into action

When your boss gives you feedback, take detailed meeting notes, and circulate them afterward. This shows you are listening and that you value the input. Even better, the next week's report should specifically demonstrate how you incorporated that feedback and the positive impact it had. This is like showing your boss you are not just hearing them; you are listening and acting on their advice. It builds trust and demonstrates your commitment to improvement.

Example: Let's say your boss suggested you streamline a particular process. In your next weekly update, you could say, "Following your suggestion to streamline the X process, we reduced processing time by 15%, freeing up team members to focus on Y." This shows you took their feedback seriously and the results show the change.

Effective communication with your boss has a ripple effect. It not only helps you get recognised for your work but also builds trust, strengthens your relationship, and creates a more collaborative environment. When your boss is well-informed, they are better equipped to support you, advocate for you, and give you opportunities to grow.

The power of clarity:

Clear communication is not about bragging. It is about ensuring everyone is well-informed about your impact. It is about making sure your hard work translates into visible results. It is about building a strong working relationship with your boss based on mutual understanding and respect. Having twelve months of meeting notes will make it easy for you and your manager to agree on the annual appraisal. You and your boss will both have the same information — the results you drove.

(The writer is the former head of global learning and development at Microsoft. He is a talent management advisor to global businesses)

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कुलसचिव / REGISTRAR

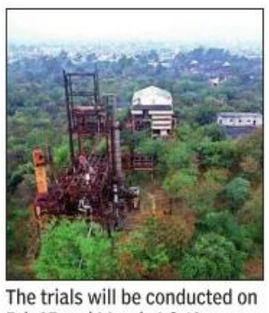
4 of family get life for killing woman who objected to them flying pigeons

Agra: A fast-track court in Uttar Pradesh has sentenced four men to life in jail for the murder of a 40-year-old woman who was brutally attacked for objecting to flying pigeons by the accused near her house in Muzaffarnagar, reports **Mohammad Dilshad**.

In June of 2023, after a heated argument between Farzana and the four men — Mannu (50), his son Tayab Ahmed (30), and relatives Sartaz Ahmed (55), and brother Pappu (52) — over pigeons, they repeatedly hit the woman with a spade, causing injuries and cuts all over her body. The woman later died in a hospital.

HC nod to MP plan for Carbide waste disposal retrial

Ashutosh Shukla & Siddharth Pandey | TNN



The trials will be conducted on Feb 27 and March 4 & 10

Bhopal/Jabalpur: Madhya Pradesh HC Tuesday agreed to state govt's proposal for a retrial of Union Carbide waste disposal at a Pithampur facility so that Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) can decide what amount of the waste should be incinerated and when.

State govt presented a status report in court on compliance with the high court order for disposal of 337 metric tonnes (MT) of Carbide waste at the Pithampur facility and suggested a three-stage "retrial" to assess environmental impact of the incineration on surrounding areas.

The plan is to incinerate 10MT waste each in three stages — 135kg waste per hour in the first phase, 180kg per hour in the second stage, and finally 270kg per hour. The trials will be conducted on Feb 27, March 4 and March 10.

The report on environmental impact of the 30MT waste incineration will be sent to CPCB to decide how much of the remaining waste should be incinerated when and in what quantity.

The bench of Chief Justice Suresh Kumar Kait and Justice Vinay Jain approved the plan.

The last time such an environmental impact trial was conducted was in 2015 when 10MT Union Carbide waste was incinerated at the Pithampur facility. However, individuals and groups — who were interveners in the PIL seeking disposal of Carbide waste — had argued at the previous hearing in HC that results of a trial conducted almost 10 years ago cannot be relied upon.

German Bakery accused gets no relief from solitary confinement

Bombay HC Junks Plea, Says No Concern About Psychological Trauma

Rosy.Sequeira
@timesofindia.com

Mirza Himayat Baig was the only person to be convicted in the blast in Feb 2010 at the German Bakery in Pune that left 17 people dead. Baig had appealed for a shift to a general barrack

Mumbai: Bombay HC on Tuesday rejected a petition by Mirza Himayat Baig, who was convicted in the 2010 Pune German Bakery blast case, to shift him to a general barrack from solitary confinement.

"At this stage, there is no concern about any psychological trauma on account of any indefinite solitary confinement," said Justices Revati Mohite Dere and Neela Gokhale. Baig was convicted in April 2013 and sentenced to death. In March 2016, the HC commuted it to life imprisonment.

Baig wrote a letter in 2018, through Nashik Road Central Prison, and urged to provide him work to contribute towards the livelihood of his economically marginalised family. Advocate Mujahid Ansari, who was appointed to represent Baig, said he suffered 14 years of incarceration. He is lodged in an "anda cell." He is kept in solitary confinement and is mentally disturbed because of the cell. Ansari said no harm would be caused if he is shifted to general barracks where there is no security risk.

Prosecutor Prajakta Shinde said the "anda cell", a high-security wing, is like any other barrack. It has sufficient light and air. There is a passage and long corridor for the prisoner to exercise. There are also other prisoners who can interact with each other. A TV and FM radio are provided for entertainment. Daily newspapers and books are provided to prisoners. There is a facility of a smart card phone in the cell to call family members and advocates and even an e-mulakat facility.

The judges perused a Sept 2012 circular that mandates high-risk prisoners to be lodged in specific cells/barracks. Taking note of the State's affidavit that there have been incidents in the prison of scuffles and attacks, they said, "it is for the prison authority to ascertain threat and perception in respect of the detenues." "Since we are satisfied that the petitioner is not in solitary confinement, we see no reason to direct the jail authorities to transfer the petitioner to a general barrack," they added. They directed that Baig "may be assigned work in consonance with prison rules/regulations."

Reinstate axed ITBP jawan: HC

In a relief to an ITBP constable who was terminated from service in 2008 for "concealing" a criminal case against him as a juvenile, Rajasthan HC Tuesday ordered his reinstatement and directed ITBP to award him consequential benefits of service, citing that Juvenile Justice Act doesn't permit punishment for past crimes, reports **Ashish Mehta**.

While hearing constable Suresh Kumar's plea, the single-judge bench of Justice Anoop Kumar Dhand said: "Children should be given an opportunity for a new beginning by freeing them from the burden of their past."

Convicts' plea not must, govt can decide on early release: SC

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesofindia.com

The court said it is an obligation of the state to consider the case of every eligible convict for remission and also said that those states and UTs, which have not formulated a remission policy yet, must do so within two months

New Delhi: As many poor prisoners keep languishing in jails because they are not aware about their right to seek remission of sentence, Supreme Court has put the onus on the govt to consider on its own and grant premature release to all those who are eligible, without waiting for a formal application by the convict or his relatives.

In an important verdict to ensure that convicts who are eligible for remission don't remain behind bars, a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan ruled on Tuesday that it is the duty of the appropriate govt to consider cases of all convicts for grant of premature release as and when they become eligible for consideration in terms of the policy. The court said it is an obligation of the state to consider the case of every eligible convict for remission.

The bench said, "When a state govt or UT has adopted a policy for the grant of permanent remission, which incorporates conditions for eligibility, it becomes an obligation of the state govt or the UT to consider cases of all eligible convicts for the grant of permanent remission as per the policy adopted."

"If such a policy exists and if the state or UT raises a contention that relief will be granted only to those who apply as per policy, it will amount to saying that even if convicts are eligible for consideration in terms of the policies, their cases will not be considered in terms of the policy. Such conduct on the part of the states will be discriminatory and arbitrary and amount to violation of Article 14 of the Constitution," it ruled.

The court also directed that those states and UTs, which have not formulated a remission policy yet, must do so within two months in terms of Section 432 of the CrPC or Section 473 of the BNSS. It said the govt can impose conditions while granting permanent remission to ensure that the criminal tendencies, if any, of the convict remain in check and that the convict rehabilitates himself in society. "The conditions should not be so oppressive or stringent that the convict is not able to take advantage of the order granting permanent remission. The conditions cannot be vague and should be capable of being performed," it said.

In case the govt refuses to grant remission, then it has to pass an order to give reasons for denying it, and the order should be immediately communicated to the convict through the office of the prison concerned.

SC grants bail to 'middleman' Michel in Agusta chopper case

New Delhi: Raising questions on delay in trial, SC Tuesday granted bail to British arms consultant and alleged middleman, **Christian James Michel**, in AgustaWestland chopper scam case being probed by CBI.

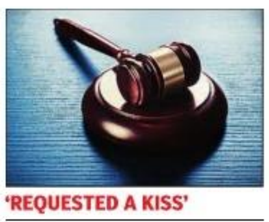
A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta granted him bail with a condition that he should renew his passport and subsequently surrender it.

Opposing his bail plea, CBI contended that he was extradited from Dubai to face trial in the case and he should not be granted relief. The bench, however, asked the agency why his continued custody was needed even after six years when the chargesheet had already been filed.

SC said trial in the case had not even started and it might take 25 years to conclude. " ...We are inclined to grant bail on conditions as may be determined by trial court. The CBI may appropriately request the trial court for imposing conditions before releasing him on bail," the bench said. TNN

HC upholds 5-year jail for Lt Col sacked over 'bad touch'

Rosy.Sequeira
@timesofindia.com



'REQUESTED A KISS'

Mumbai: Bombay HC has upheld the sentence of a dismissed Lt Col to five years of imprisonment under Pocso Act for sexual assaulting and sexual harassing an 11-year-old girl. "The statement of the prosecutrix-minor girl inspires confidence... Her instinct of identifying a bad touch of the petitioner must be believed," said a bench of Justices Revati Mohite Dere and Neela Gokhale on Monday.

They dismissed the appeal by the former Army officer against a Jan 2024 order of Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT), Mumbai, which confirmed the minimum punishment of five-year jail imposed by General Court Martial (GCM) in March 2021. He was also sentenced to be cashiered from service. In Jan 2024, a single HC judge stayed the AFT order.

On Feb 1, 2020, a day after joining his posting in Pune, the Lt Col asked a havildar to bring his two children—a boy and a girl—to show them palmistry. He sent the havildar to bring a pen. The father left the room, followed by the son. After two minutes, the havildar returned and found his daughter crying.

The dismissed officer's petition said he had no ill intention and "he merely requested a kiss from the young girl out of fatherly or grandfatherly affection". HC agreed with Centre's advocate that a medical examination was not required as there was no physical injury to the survivor. The judges vacated the stay and directed the petitioner "to surrender to Army authorities with immediate effect to facilitate his transfer to the prison authorities".

Bail for accused in ₹4cr Raipur crypto scam

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Tuesday granted bail to an accused in a Rs 4 crore crypto currency scam in Raipur, in which around 2,000 investors lost their monies, and asked the accused, Subhelal, to deposit Rs 35 lakh as security deposit within six months, reports **Dhananjay Mahapatra**.

"We are conscious of the fact that we have been condemning the high courts when they impose such conditions. But here is a case wherein we are compelled to impose such conditions having regard to the peculiar facts of this case," said a bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan in its judgment.

"We make it clear that within the time period of six months, if the amount is not deposited by the appellant, this bail shall stand automatically cancelled," the bench said.

Immediately release from jail woman with ailing child: HC

Mumbai: Bombay HC has directed the immediate release of a woman along with her one-year-old child from Byculla Women's Prison, considering the serious medical condition of the toddler who has been with her since her arrest in Aug 2024, reports **Rosy Sequeira**.

"Keeping in mind the peculiar facts of this case, that is, that the offence with which the petitioner is charged is bailable and the medical condition of the petitioner's daughter, which is serious, we, in writ jurisdiction under Article 226, allow the petition," said Justices Revati Mohite Dere and Neela Gokhale on Thursday.

The mother moved HC seeking her release on bail considering the child's health issues. She was booked by Trombay police along with other accused under the BNS sections 103 (1) (murder) and 238 (causing disappearance of evidence). Following HC's direction to the jail superintendent, on Feb 10, additional public prosecutor Vithal Konde Deshmukh submitted the child's medical case papers to the court.

The judges perused the medical papers and noted that the "1.2-year-old child" was admitted to J J Hospital considering her medical condition — lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI). Since she was also suffering from anaemia along with an upper respiratory tract infection (URTI), the doctors were constrained to give her a blood transfusion. They also noted that the serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase (SGOT), an enzyme that measures liver health, is 48 (normal range is between 8-40). She was also required to be given nasal O2 (oxygen) and nebulization. She was also put on antibiotics for her medical condition.

"It appears that the petitioner has no role in the alleged offence punishable under Section 103 (1) of the BNS," the judges noted. Also, that Section 238 is bailable and "as such the petitioner ought to have been granted bail forthwith".

Chennai cops forget drug scale, weigh ganja like bananas; court throws out case

Ram.Sundaram@timesofindia.com

Chennai: A man accused of smuggling ganja recently walked free after a city court threw out the case as Chennai police had borrowed a fruit vendor's weighing scales to measure the narcotic seized instead of using their own equipment as mandated by law.

Sub-Inspector Palani, who led the raid, initially reported to his superiors that his team had the necessary weighing machine. However, in court, he admitted under cross-examination that they had used a shop's scales. The result: Ashok Kumar alias 'Kakka' Kumar walked free. The seizure took place on Nov 11, 2019, at LGN Road-Gopal Dass Road junction following a tip-off that Kumar was in possession of ganja. Police searched him in the fruit market and claimed to have seized 1.5kg of ganja.

After the seizure, 50 grams of ganja were sent to a forensic lab, while the remaining quantity was packed and sealed. However, police took 61 days to submit the seized narcotic to the court, raising doubts about the integrity of its handling. The NDPS Act mandates that police should carry their own weighing machines, testing kits, and packing materials to ensure proper evidence collection at the scene of seizure. The trial court cited contradictions in the prosecution's evidence and ruled in favour of the accused. Principal Special Judge S Hermies found the recovery process unreliable and dismissed the case.

This isn't an isolated case — Chennai police have repeatedly skipped carrying weighing machines, leading to acquittals. During a trial in the same court last Oct, Kilpauk police borrowed a shop's scales to weigh two kg of ganja seized near Ega Theatre.

"Police and customs measure exact weights only in major seizures (in tonnes) at transit hubs such as airports or ports. In other cases, they record a convenient figure at the station, a practice defence lawyers often challenge in court," alleged advocate R Gopi.

कार्यालय-अधीक्षण अभियन्ता उत्तराखण्ड पावर कॉरपोरेशन लिमिटेड विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हल्द्वानी (नैनीताल) निविदा निरस्तीकरण सूचना इस कार्यालय द्वारा प्रकाशित ई0डी0सी0(एच0) 83/2024-25, ई0डी0सी0(एच0) 86/2024-25 एवं ई0डी0सी0(एच0) 89/2024-25 में किसी भी निविदाकार द्वारा प्रतिभाग नहीं किये जाने के कारण उक्त निविदाओं को निरस्त किया जाता है। **अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,** विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हल्द्वानी। **''विद्युत बिलों के 24×7 ऑनलाईन भुगतान हेतु WWW.UPCL.org पर जायें'' Customer Toll Free No. 1912** ''राष्ट्रहित में विद्युत बचायें'' RO-587/18.02.2025

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONSUMERS' FEDERATION OF INDIA LIMITED
(Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution) Govt. of India.
NCUI Complex, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016

The National Cooperative Consumers' Federation (NCCF) invites bids for the empanelment of Consultants/ Consulting Agencies for the following services:
1. Review and update of the NCCF Business Manual.
2. Development of the NCCF Procurement Manual.
3. Engagement of an Onion Consultant.

Interested parties may refer to the **NCCF** website: **www.nccf-india.com** for detailed information. The last date for submission of applications is 24th February 2025.

Sd/-
In-charge (P&A)
NCCF of India Ltd.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: CAO/CN/BNC/69/2025
Dated : 12-02-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Hubballi Division -	**Rs. 8,69,73,023/-**

Hubballi-Ballari Section : **1)** Construction of subway at km 117/000-100 in lieu of LC No. 66 at Km. 117/600-700 between Koppal and Ginigera Stations (Balance Works). **2)** Construction of subway in lieu of LC No.62 at Km 116/100-200 between Koppal and Ginigera Stations (Balance Works). **(Tender Ref. No.: KBL-LC-66-62-BAL-R)**

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs on 07-03-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/796/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRS, East Central Railway, Barauni on behalf of the President of India invites "Open" E-tender from the eligible and experienced agencies or contractors for E-Tender No. ELS_BJU_CABAC_24-25. Particulars are as under:
1. Name of the work with its location : Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Electric Loco Cab Roof Mounted AC Units of 3-phase loco (WAG-9/WAP-7) of Electric loco shed, BJU including replacement of spares for a period of 02 years. **2. Approx. cost of the work :** 2,61,97,380.14 (Rupees Two Crore sixty one Lakh ninety seven Thousand three hundred eighty and fourteen paise only), **3. Earnest Money :** Rs. 2,81,000.00, **4. Date & time of start of bid :** 24/02/2025, **5. Date and time of pre-bid meeting :** NA, **6. Last Date & Time for submission of bid :** 10/03/2025, 11:00 Hrs., **7. Website particulars where tender document is available :** **https://www.ireps.gov.in** Detailed tender notice, eligiblity criteria and tender document can be seen from above website. All corrigendum will be uploaded on website, if required.
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRS East Central Railway/Barauni
PR/02128/SEE/ETRS/T/24-25/36

VACANCIES AT AIR FORCE SCHOOL PANCHWATI
1. Application are invited from the eligible candidates for empanelment in permanent and contractual appointments (HM, TGT SST, TGT MATHS, TGT ENG, TGT COMP, PRT, Special Educator, NTT, Office Superintendent, CLERK) at AF School Panchwati 13BRD, Air Force Station Palam 110010. Forms to be submitted or posted by 6th Mar 25.
2. Eligibility criteria and for other details please visit AF School website: **www.afspanchwati.com**
(Reetika Jain) Principal AF School Panchwati

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
1st Corrigendum
No. Dy.CE/C/AGC/TN/2025/02/ Corrg.No.1 Dated 17.02.2025
Following modification in above tender notice is made in Tender No. CEN00 AGC0225 dated 03.02.2025
Name of work: Existing Value: Pre and post tamping track measurement survey using Trimble Gedo Vorsys trolley system between Agra Fort-Bandikui section 150Km, Bhandai Flyover Etawah Bound Down Train (10Km) and any other location in the jurisdiction of Agra/construction Unit. **Modified Present Value:** Pre and post tamping track measurement survey using Trimble Gedo Vorsys trolley system between Agra Fort- Bandikui section 150Km, Bhandai Flyover Etawah Bound Down Train (10Km) Dholpur Sirmathura GC section, Mathura Jn. - Yard remodeling & flyover at Bhuteshwar section and any other location in the jurisdiction of Agra/construction Unit. **Advertised Value (INR): Existing Value:** ₹ 5897904.00, **Modified Present Value:** ₹ 8367651.00, **Earnest Money (INR): Existing Value:** ₹ 118000.00, **Modified present Value:** ₹ 167400.00, **Tender Document, NIT schedule: Existing Value:** Existing values, **Modified Present Value:** Revised value.
For more details, please visit http://www.ireps.gov.in/ 227/25 FA
North central railways @CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender Notice No. 48 of 2024-25 (Open)-Engg/DDU
On line (through E-Tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings.
(i) Tender No. 04-DDU-SR DEN-C-24-25. Name of Work with its location : Supply of 150000 Cum of 50mm size Machine Crushed track stone ballast as per railway specifications for Track Ballast, IS/RDSO-GE/0001:2023, FEBRUARY 2023 including latest Correction Slips and loading the same into any types of Railway wagon including all sorts of incidental charges from sources/ sidings located in West Central Railway and North Central Railway within a distance of 350 Km from DDU Junction under ECR. (ii) Advertised Value: ₹14,30,80,500/-, (iii) Earnest Money : ₹8,65,400/-, (iv) Closing Date & time for submission of e-tender : 11.03.2025, Up-to 12:00 hrs. (v) Website particulars of e-tendering : www.ireps.gov.in
Divisional Railway Manager/ ECR/Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya
PR/02125/DDU/ENGG/T/24-25/40

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY
E-Tendering Tender Notice No. 08/2025
Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) N.E. Railways Izatnagar For and behalf of president of India invites **"OPEN"** e-tender through on Line (E-tendering) for the following work., **S.N.:- 1., Description of works:-** TBSR work of Bridge No.409 between BC-KSJ section by H-Beam sleepers under sanction work Through Ballast recoupment by BCM Machine between BPR-LKU Section (64.3)km., **Approx. Value (Rs.):-** Rs. 3,62,08,420.71, **E.M.D Money (Rs.):-** Rs. 3,31,100/-, Cost of Tender Forms **Rs. NIL**, Completion time/period from the date of issue of acceptance letter **03 months.**, **S.N.:- 2., Description of works:-** Provision of Extension of sick line shed for NMG (Size-35x18m) at Lalkuan Station., **Approx. Value (Rs.):-** Rs. 1,26,58,450.83, **E.M.D Money (Rs.):-** Rs. 2,13,300/-, Cost of Tender Forms **Rs. NIL** Completion time /period from the date of issue of acceptance letter **06 months.**, **1.** Sr.No. of 1 On line e-tender can be submitted up to **15.00 hrs** of dated **11.03.2025.**, **2.** Sr.No. 2 on line e-tender can be submitted up to **15.00 hrs** of dated **10.03.2025.**, **3.** For Full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways IREPS website **www.ireps.gov.in.**
Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.)
CPRO/W-406 Izatnagar
Do Not Smoke Bidi/Cigarette in train

North Eastern Railway
E-Tendering Notice
Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical/General), North Eastern Railway, Varanasi for and on behalf of President of India, invites Online (E-Tendering) "Open Tenders" for the following work: **S.N. 1, Tender Reference No. :** E-Tender-L-55-24-25, **Name of Work :** Electrical work connection to 12.0 Mtr. wide Foot Over Bridge at Varanasi City under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme., **Approx. Cost (in Rs.) :** 83,32,413.90, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :** 1,66,700.00, **Completion Period :** 04 Months, **Date & Time of Closing Tender :** 11.03.2025 14:30 Hrs., **Date & Time of Opening Tender :** 11.03.2025 14:30 Hrs. **S.N. 2, Tender Reference No. :** E-Tender-L-56-24-25, **Name of Work :** Electrical work connection to 12.0 Mtr. wide Foot Over Bridge at Bhatni Junction under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme., **Approx. Cost (in Rs.) :** 77,94,904.50, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :** 1,55,900.00, **Completion Period :** 04 Months, **Date & Time of Closing Tender :** 11.03.2025 14:30 Hrs., **Date & Time of Opening Tender :** 11.03.2025 14:30 Hrs. **S.N. 3, Tender Reference No. :** E-Tender-L-57-24-25, **Name of Work :** Electrical work connection to 12.0 Mtr. wide Foot Over Bridge at Deoria Sadar under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme., **Approx. Cost (in Rs.) :** 43,54,093.15, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :** 87,100.00, **Completion Period :** 04 Months, **Date & Time of Closing Tender :** 12.03.2025 14:30 Hrs., **Date & Time of Opening Tender :** 12.03.2025 14:30 Hrs. **S.N. 4, Tender Reference No. :** E-Tender-L-58-24-25, **Name of Work :** Electrical work connection to setup of Infrastructural facilities for 02T/Shift Capacity of Mechanised Laundry at Coaching Depots Banaras and Chhapra., **Approx. Cost (in Rs.) :** 51,83,517.47, **Earnest Money (in Rs.) :** 1,03,700.00, **Completion Period :** 04 Months, **Date & Time of Closing Tender :** 12.03.2025 14:30 Hrs., **Date & Time of Opening Tender :** 12.03.2025 14:30 Hrs. • For full details of above E-Tender works and to participate in tenders please visit Indian Railway Website **www.ireps.gov.in.**
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
CPRO/EL-245 North Eastern Railway, Varanasi
Do not travel with Inflammable article in train

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ସମଗ୍ର ଶିକ୍ଷା
समग्र शिक्षा
Samagra Shiksha
ODISHA SCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAMME AUTHORITY
"SHIKSHA SOUDHA", UNIT-V, BHUBANESWAR-751001
No. 2401/FIN/2025 Dated 18/02/2025
FIN (EA) 279-part-1
Notice Inviting Expression of Interest for Empanelment of Chartered Accountant Firms
Sealed Expression of Interest (EoI) is invited in specific format from the C&AG/State AG's empanelled Chartered Accountant firms having a minimum of five years of experience to conduct Audit of Accounts under different Schemes implemented by Odisha School Education Programme Authority (OSEPA), a Society registered under Society Registration Act, 1860 under administrative control of School & Mass Education Department, Govt. of Odisha. The last date of submission of EoI is by 5.00 PM of **28/02/2025**.The EoI document along with the TOR is available in OSEPA web site **osepa.odisha.gov.in.**
Corrigendum addendum, if required, will be uploaded in the above web site. Hence potential CA firms are requested to be in continuous touch with the above web site. The EoI inviting Authority i.e. OSEPA reserves the right to accept / reject any/all EoI / cancel the entire selection process at any stage without assigning any reason thereof. No claim, whatsoever, shall be admissible for the alleged loss/damage suffered by the firm/s on account of such rejections.
Sd/-
State Project Director
OIPR-27068/11/0037/24-25

Banks pursuing me are 'acting in bad faith', Mallya tells UK court

Court Refuses To Stall Hearing On Bankruptcy

Naomi Canton

Mallya's representative told London HC his writ petition in Karnataka HC on Feb 5 could 'soon' lead to 'new evidence' relevant to whether the bankruptcy order should ever have been made

London: Fugitive Indian businessman Vijay Mallya's barrister told a London court that the banks pursuing Mallya are "acting in bad faith" and not being transparent as he made a failed attempt to adjourn Mallya's appeal hearing against his bankruptcy order in the London high court on the first day of its hearing on Tuesday.

Alastair Tomson, representing Mallya, told the court that Mallya's writ petition in Karnataka HC on Feb 5 could "soon" lead to "new evidence" relevant to whether the bankruptcy order should ever have been made and applied for the appeal hearing to be adjourned. Judge Sir Anthony Mann dismissed the adjournment application on the spot, questioning how long a case in India would take to reach its conclusion.

"Anecdotal evidence shows me 'soon' in Indian courts is not necessarily soon. A lot of cases take a long time in India," Mann added.

He also did not allow late evidence from Mallya, which included the writ petition.

Mallya was declared bankrupt by the insolvency and companies court in London on July 26, 2021 for failing to clear a judgment debt of £1.05 billion (Rs 11,499 crore) determined by the Debt Recovery Tribunal, Karnataka, in 2017, which was registered in the English courts.

Tomson said Mallya believes the State Bank of India (SBI)-led consortium pursued bankruptcy proceedings against him "in bad faith", the banks have made recoveries which "satisfied the judgment debt twice over", and incorrect information was given in various proceedings.

He said Mallya believes the "consortium has concealed and misrepresented the details of recoveries made" and that there is "no accountability of the assets recovered."

He said they have suppressed facts and at the same time taken advantage of accruing interest, which is "unprecedented in debt recovery". "The intent of these extortionate actions is to recover far in excess of what is due to the petitioners, which is arbitrary, unlawful and unconstitutional," Tomson said.

No rules for EWS age relaxation, UPSC tells HC

Bhopal/Jabalpur: Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) told Madhya Pradesh HC there is no provision in DoPT guidelines to accord the same relaxation to economically weaker section (EWS) applicants as other reserved categories in civil service exam, report **Ashutosh Shukla and Siddharth Pandey**.

On Feb 14, HC had issued an interim order to UPSC to allow five years' age relaxation and nine attempts to EWS candidates as is given to other reserved categories like SC, ST, OBC and physically disabled.

The petitioners' counsel argued that reservation provided to OBC candidates is on economic consideration as well, since those in the creamy layer don't get quota benefits. HC deferred the hearing of the case to Feb 24. The petitioners have questioned why EWS applicants don't get the same benefits as other reserved classes.

J&K must use BNSS clauses to ensure 'trial in absentia' in terror cases: Shah

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Union home minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said J&K must urgently use the new provision in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) allowing 'trial in absentia' of an accused declared as a proclaimed offender and who has absconded to evade trial with no immediate prospects of arrest.

Shah made this observation while chairing a meeting here to review implementation of the new criminal laws in J&K, in the presence of LG Manoj Sinha and chief minister Omar Abdullah. The 'trial in absentia' provision is expected to facilitate trial in terror cases in J&K, given that the main accused in these cases — masterminds heading foreign terror outfits and handlers of the arrested accused — operate from safe havens in Pakistan or Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Shah chaired a review meeting in Delhi, attended by LG Manoj Sinha and CM Omar Abdullah

By virtue of Section 355 and 356 of the BNSS, Pakistan-based terror masterminds can be put on trial in India and the judgment pronounced in their absence.

Shah directed J&K authorities to ensure the full implementation of the new criminal laws — BNSS, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam — by April.

Sources in the J&K LG's office said the infrastructure and systems required for 100% rollout of the new laws — across pillars of criminal justice like police, prisons, prosecution, courts and forensics — are at an advanced stage of readiness. The training of the J&K Police in the new criminal justice system is nearly 72% complete, they added. Shah has asked this to be completed at the earliest.

Briefing reporters after the meeting, Abdullah said while implementation of the criminal laws is not his mandate (with law and order being the LG's domain), his govt does have a role in spreading awareness about the laws across universities, colleges, and in social and political circles.

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REGD. OFFICE: P. O. RANOLI - 391 350, DIST. VADODARA, GUJARAT, INDIA.
CIN No.: L24110GJ1973PLC002247

Sr. No.	Position	Likely Posting
01	General Manager (Corporate Planning & Projects)	Baroda
02	General Manager (Energy Management)	Baroda
03	General Manager (IT)	Baroda
04	General Manager (Materials Management)	Baroda
05	Chief Manager (Safety & Environment)	Dahej

Remuneration will commensurate with industry standard. For more details please visit the website **www.gacl.com**

All interested and aspiring candidates may apply on-line within 10 days of publication of this advertisement. You may also scan the QR-Code and apply directly.

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6th & 7th of March, 2025 @ BEML Ltd., Flat No. E,F,G,H, 'Vandana' 11th Floor, 11 Tolstoy Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi 110 001.

For detailed advertisement visit https://www.bemlindia.in/carrers/ (Advt. No KP/S/05/2025)

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL
P-37, Sector-VI, M.B. Road, Pushp Vihar, Saket, New Delhi
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The International education initiative of the Delhi Public School Society requires for the session 2025-26

PGT - Physics, English

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Preference will be given to qualified candidates with International experience and familiarity with foreign curricula.

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Bank of Baroda
www.bankofbaroda.in

Notice for Engagement of Apprentices in Bank of Baroda under the Apprentices Act, 1961

Bank of Baroda, one of India's largest Banks is offering a valuable opportunity for Training & Skill Development under Apprentices Act 1961 (as amended from time to time)

Particular	No. of Training Seats	Selection Process
Engagement of Apprentices	4000*	Online Written Test
		Document Verification
		Language Proficiency Test

* Please note that the number of training seats mentioned above are provisional and may vary according to the actual requirement of the Bank.

Candidates are required to first get themselves registered on the government apprenticeship portals https://www.apprenticeshipindia.gov.in and / or https://nats.education.gov.in to be eligible to apply online for the apprenticeship program of the Bank.

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, etc.), requisite fees and other details are available on websites of Bank of Baroda and also on the website of BFSI SSC. Interested candidates are advised to visit the following websites:

- Bank's website - www.bankofbaroda.co.in → Career Page → Current Opportunities
- BFSI SSC's website - https://bfsissc.com

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement, ensuring their eligibility & other details before applying and remitting fees.

Any addendum/ corrigendum/ modification shall be notified on the Current Opportunity Section websites of Bank of Baroda and on the website of BFSI SSC.

Date for Submission of Online Application: 19.02.2025 to 11.03.2025 (23:59 hours).

Place: Mumbai
Date: 19.02.2025

Chief General Manager (HRM & Marketing)

(118/2024-25)

Bank of India BOI

Head Office: Star House, Plot C-5, 'G' Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400 051.

Recruitment of Specialist Security Officers
Project No. 2024-25/2

Bank of India, a leading Public Sector Bank, invites online applications for Recruitment of 10 Specialist Security Officers (MMGS-II).

For further details, please visit "Career" Section on our website www.bankofindia.co.in from 18.02.2025 onwards.

General Manager (HR)

IIT (BHU) INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (Banaras Hindu University)

Advertisement No. 01/2024-25

The Institute invites online applications from Indian citizens for filling up the post of Registrar and Superintending Engineer. Detailed advertisement is available on the Institute's website: **www.iitbhu.ac.in; iitbhu.ac.in/recruitment_nf.** Last date for receipt of online applications: **12-03-2025 (till 5:00 p.m.).**

Dated: 17-02-2025 REGISTRAR

GACL-NALCO Alkalies & Chemicals Private Limited
(Promoted by GACL & NALCO)
Registered and Corporate Office : GACL Corporate Building, P.O.Ranoli- 391350, Dist.Vadodara, Gujarat, INDIA
Phone: +91- 265-6111557 / 7119557
Website: www.gnal.co.in | CIN: U24100GJ2015PTC085247

Sr. No.	Position	Likely Posting
1	Additional General Manager/Deputy General Manager (Head - Captive Power Plant)	Dahej

All interested and aspiring candidates may apply on-line within 15 days from release of this advertisement. Remuneration will be commensurate with industry standard.

For more details, please visit "Latest Open Positions" in Careers section of our website **www.gnal.co.in** or scan the beside QR code.

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Union Bank of India
यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम
A Government of India Undertaking

Applications invited for Apprentices

Union Bank of India, one of India's largest Public Sector Banks, invites online applications from Indian Citizens for engagement as apprentice. Eligibility criteria (age, educational qualification, fees, etc) and other details are available under Careers/Recruitment tab on Bank's website www.unionbankofindia.co.in and http://bfsissc.com Candidates are advised to go through the detailed notification ensuring eligibility and other details before applying.

Number of apprentices : 2691

Training period : 1 year

Stipend : ₹ 15,000 per month

Date for filling online application and payment of fees: 19-02-2025 to 05-03-2025

Note: The number of training seats mentioned above is provisional and may vary according to the actual requirement of the Bank.

(Toll Free No.) 1800 208 2244 / 1800 425 1515 / 1800 425 3555 | 9666606060 | www.unionbankofindia.co.in

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ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT GWALIOR
(An Institute of National Importance under MoE, GoI)
Morena Link Road Gwalior-474015
web : www.iiitm.ac.in

Ref.ABV-IIITMG/03/2025 Date - 12.02.2025

OPENINGS FOR FACULTY POSITIONS

Institute invites applications for regular faculty positions from qualified Indian nationals with an established record of independent, high-quality research and commitment to teaching and research in the departments of:

Positions	Departments
Assistant Professor (Grade-I/II)	Information Technology, Electrical and Electronics Engineering and Engineering Sciences
Associate Professor	
Professor	

Further to fortify its research spectrum Institute intends to recruit Institute **Post Doctoral Fellows** (IPDF) and Externally Funded Post Doctoral Fellows (EFPDF) (vide advertisement No. ABV-IIITMG/02/2025) in all its departments.

For further details and submission of application, please visit: **https://www.iiitm.ac.in**

Important Dates:

Application	Faculty	PDF
Opens	12.02.2025	07.02.2025
Closes	17.03.2025	31.03.2025

Joint Registrar (A&A)

Bank of Baroda
बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा

Notice for Recruitment of Professionals on Regular Basis in Bank of Baroda

Bank of Baroda, one of the India's largest Banks is looking for Professionals on Regular basis for various positions in the Bank.

S N	Position	Grade / Scale	Vacancies
	Department – Information Technology (32 Positions - 350 Vacancies)		
1	Senior Manager- Developer Full Stack JAVA	MMG/S-III	10
2	Manager-Developer Full Stack JAVA	MMG/S-II	27
3	Officer-Developer Full Stack JAVA	JMG/S-I	10
4	Senior Manager Developer- Full Stack MERN	MMG/S-III	10
5	Manager-Developer- Full Stack MERN	MMG/S-II	28
6	Officer-Developer- Full Stack MERN	JMG/S-I	15
7	Officer-Cloud Engineer	JMG/S-I	10
8	Manager-Cloud Engineer	MMG/S-II	20
9	Officer- AI Engineer (AI/GenAI/ NLP/ML)	JMG/S-I	10
10	Manager- AI Engineer (AI/GenAI/ NLP/ML)	MMG/S-II	10
11	Senior Manager AI Engineer (AI/ GenAI/NLP/ML)	MMG/S-III	10
12	Officer- API Developer	JMG/S-I	10
13	Manager- API Developer	MMG/S-II	10
14	Senior Manager- API Developer	MMG/S-III	10
15	Manager- Network Administrator	MMG/S-II	20
16	Officer- Network Administrator	JMG/S-I	10
17	Manager- Server Administrator (Linux & Unix)	MMG/S-II	20
18	Officer- Server Administrator (Linux & Unix)	JMG/S-I	10
19	Senior Manager Database Administrator(SQL)	MMG/S-III	5
20	Senior Manager Database Administrator(Oracle)	MMG/S-III	5
21	Manager-Database Administrator	MMG/S-II	10
22	Officer- Database Administrator	JMG/S-I	10
23	Senior Manager- Data Scientist	MMG/S-III	5
24	Manager- Data Scientist	MMG/S-II	10
25	Officer- Data Scientist	JMG/S-I	5
26	Senior Manager Data Engineer	MMG/S-III	5
27	Manager - Data Engineer	MMG/S-II	10
28	Officer Data Engineer	JMG/S-I	5
29	Officer- Finacle Developer	JMG/S-I	5
30	Manager- Finacle Developer	MMG/S-II	10
31	Senior Manager- Finacle Developer	MMG/S-III	5
32	Senior Manager- Enterprise Architect	MMG/S-III	10
	Department – Trade & Forex (05 Positions - 97 Vacancies)		
33	Manager- Trade Finance Operations	MMG/S-II	50
34	Manager- Forex Acquisition & Relationship	MMG/S-II	40
35	Senior Manager- Forex Acquisition & Relationship	MMG/S-III	5
36	Chief Manager- Forex Acquisition & Relationship	SMG/S-IV	1
37	Chief Manager- Financial Institutions & Correspondent Banking Relationship	SMG/S-IV	1
	Department - Risk Management (18 Positions - 35 Vacancies)		
38	Manager- Portfolio Monitoring & Exposure Management	MMG/S-II	1
39	Senior Manager- Sector/Industry Analyst	MMG/S-III	1
40	Senior Manager- Thematic study on sectors	MMG/S-III	1
41	Manager-Enterprise Risk Management	MMG/S-II	2
42	Senior Manager-Enterprise risk Management	MMG/S-III	1
43	Manager - Climate Risk	MMG/S-II	3
44	Senior Manager - Climate Risk	MMG/S-III	2
45	Chief Manager-Climate Risk	SMG/S-IV	1
46	Manager - Model Validation	MMG/S-II	2
47	Senior Manager - Model Validation	MMG/S-III	1
48	Manager - Analytics	MMG/S-II	3
49	Senior Manager - Analytics	MMG/S-III	2
50	Manager - Model Development	MMG/S-II	2
51	Senior Manager - Model Development	MMG/S-III	1
52	Manager- Credit Risk/Digital risk	MMG/S-II	5
53	Senior Manager- Credit Risk/Digital risk	MMG/S-III	4
54	Chief Manager- Credit Risk/Digital Risk	SMG/S-IV	2
55	Senior Manager - Bank, NBFC and FI Sector Credit Risk Management	MMG/S-III	1
	Department - Security (01 Position - 36 Vacancies)		
56	Manager - Security	MMG/S-II	36

Please note that the number of vacancies mentioned above are provisional and may vary according to the actual requirement of the Bank.

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification & experience), requisite fees and other details are available on Bank's website. Interested candidates are advised to visit the Bank's website www.bankofbaroda.co.in -> Career Page -> Current Opportunities -> Recruitment of Professionals on Regular Basis for Various Departments Advt No. BOB/HRM/REC/ADVT/2025/02

Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement, ensuring their eligibility & other details before applying and remitting fees.

Any addendum/ corrigendum/ modification shall be notified only on the Bank's website.

Date for filling Online Application & Payment of Fee: 19.02.2025 to 11.03.2025 (23:59 hours).

Place : Mumbai
Date : 19.02.2025

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (HRM & Marketing)

Didi threatens to quit if 'terror, Muslim League links' proved

Kolkata: "I will resign as the chief minister if you can prove that I have links with terror outfits or am associated with Muslim League," West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee said in the assembly on Tuesday, countering BJP's allegations, report **Tamaghna Banerjee, Rohit Khanna and Debashis Konar**.

"I was accused of disrespecting Hinduism and supporting Muslim League. After all my struggles, I have to hear that I have links with terrorists from J&K and Bangladesh. I will write to the PM, and if he can prove any link with terrorists, I will step down as CM," she said as her party colleagues chanted "Shame, Shame)" in unison. Banerjee added, "There is no place for mafia in Bengal. We do not harbour terrorists or rioters. It's better to die than to be accused of having ties with terrorists." Her comments were in response to allegations made by leader of opposition Suvendu Adhikai outside the House on Monday after his 30-day suspension.

A privilege motion was moved in the assembly against Adhikari for his comments on Tuesday even as BJP MLAs boycotted the session.

Addressing Adhikari, the CM said, "I saw the video of what you said outside the assembly yesterday. You claimed you were expelled for speaking about Hinduism. Since when did you become a leader of Hinduism?" She added, "You (BJP) sell religion to divide the country. We do not. Remember that because we believe in democracy in Bengal, that everyone is allowed to speak. But we will not tolerate division in the name of religion."

Responding to BJP's allegations of two holidays on the occasion of Shab-e-Barat, the CM said the party in opposition raises questions but does not have the courage to listen to answers, which is why they were not present in the House. "One leave was for Shab-e-Barat and the other to mark the birth anniversary of Panchanan Barma," she said, adding, "You need the Rajbangshis for votes but won't respect their leader and tradition."

Day after CEC selection, Cong, BJP cross swords over process

Midnight appointment violates statute: Rahul

Subodh.Ghildiyal
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Seeking a hold on the appointment of the CEC till the Supreme Court is seized of the law on its selection, leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi told the top collegium that Ambedkar had in the Constituent Assembly warned against executive interference in the affairs of the Election Commission, adding that independence of the watchdog depends on the process of the selection of ECs and the CEC.

Congress called the midnight appointment of CEC as going against the spirit of the Constitution, betraying a keen govt interest to circumvent the SC's scrutiny and get the appointment done before a clear order kicked in. It said the SC is to hear a challenge to the law on the appointment Wednesday. Congress general secretary KC Venugopal said such decisions are the reason why CECs appointed by BJP govt are subject of suspicion among people.

In the meeting on Monday, in which PM Modi and home minister Shah selected Gyanesh Kumar as the new CEC, Rahul said the SC on March 2, 2023, had ruled the CEC and ECs should be selected by a collegium consisting of the PM, the leader of opposition (LOP), and the Chief Justice of India (CJI). He said the SC judgment "reflected the larger concern among hundreds of million of voters over the integrity of our electoral process. This is also reflected in public surveys that show a continuing decline in trust of voters in India's election process and its institutions."

In his dissent note submitted to the collegium, Rahul said it was unfortunate the govt bypassed the spirit of the SC judgment by replacing the CJI with a cabinet minister in the collegium. "This is a flagrant violation of the letter and spirit of the SC order," he said.

Rahul said that since the SC was scheduled to hear a challenge to the composition of the collegium, "it will be disrespectful and discourteous to the institutions as well as to the founding leaders of our nation for this committee to continue with its process of choosing the next CEC." He sought the meeting to be postponed, calling it the view of Congress.

Pradhan strikes back, says 'rules not broken'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP on Tuesday attacked LoP in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for opposing the appointment of Gyanesh Kumar as the chief election commissioner and Vivek Joshi as election commissioner, saying the Congress MP's note of dissent was politically motivated and lacked merit.

Outgoing chief election commissioner Rajiv Kumar (centre) with the newly appointed CEC Gyanesh Kumar (left) in New Delhi on Tuesday

"This latest move by Rahul Gandhi is another attempt to create controversy and peddle propaganda about the CEC's appointment. Has Rahul Gandhi forgotten how ECs were appointed during Congress rule? Despite being in power for decades, why did Congress govts do nothing to reform the selection mechanism?" Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on X. He said successive govts appointed their nominee as CEC and did not care to follow the Constitution's directive to constitute a collegium. "It is our govt that has created a joint system for the appointment of CEC and EC, which includes the leader of the opposition. It is a great misfortune that Rahul Gandhi and Congress are acting like cry babies even when no rule/law is broken," Pradhan said.

The minister also questioned Rahul invoking the Constitution and B R Ambedkar to make his case. "Congress never missed an opportunity to ridicule and insult Baba Saheb Ambedkar, yet the 'yuvraj' of Congress (Rahul Gandhi) has the audacity to take a grandstand on upholding Baba Saheb's ideals and those of our founding leaders," he said.

BJP IT department head Amit Malviya referenced the March 2, 2023, ruling by a five-judge constitution bench, which revised the appointment process to include recommendations from a committee comprising the PM, LoP, and CJI, but only until Parliament legislated otherwise. Malviya said the appointment process is "more structured, transparent and inclusive," involving multiple stakeholders, including the LoP.

On the appointment process, he said a search committee, led by the law minister (currently Arjun Ram Meghwal) and two senior bureaucrats, shortlisted five candidates and the list was sent to a selection committee.

SC had refused to stay law on choosing CEC

▶ Continued from P1

A five-judge SC bench on March 2, 2023 in the Anoop Baranwal case had noticed a vacuum in parliamentary legislation on the process for selection of CEC and ECs and directed that a panel comprising the Prime Minister, the leader of the opposition and the Chief Justice of India would advise the President on appointments to the Election Commission of India. The bench said this court-crafted panel will continue to operate till Parliament enacts a law in this regard.

In Dec 2023, both Houses of Parliament passed the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Officer and Terms of Office) Bill, which became a law on getting the President's assent on Dec 29, 2023. The law replaced Chief Justice of India with a Union Cabinet minister (to be nominated by the PM) in the committee.

Many petitions were immediately filed before Supreme Court alleging that the law violated the spirit of the SC judgment, which was to maintain the independence of ECI. On Jan 12, 2024, a bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna (now CJI) and Dipankar Datta refused to stay the operation of the legislation.

The CJI has recused from hearing PILs on the ground that these are seeking CJI's inclusion in the selection panel.

BJP sweeps Guj local body polls, Cong tally improves marginally

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Gandhinagar: Matching its unparalleled victory in the 2022 Gujarat assembly elections, BJP Tuesday notched up yet another spectacular performance by sweeping local body polls for Junagadh Municipal Corporation (JMC), 68 municipalities, three taluka panchayats and by-polls to several vacant local body seats.

Union minister C R Patil greets Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel on BJP's victory in polls, Tuesday

Although Congress improved its tally from 1 to 11, BJP won the JMC election comfortably, winning 48 of the 60 seats, with one seat bagged by an Independent.

BJP also put up a remarkable showing by bagging 62 of the 68 municipalities for which elections were held. Congress could win just one — Salaya in Devbhumi Dwarka district — losing 12 municipalities it won in the last elections held in 2018. BJP comfortably retained all three taluka panchayats — Gandhinagar, Kapadvanj and Kathlal. AAP did not win any seat in JMC and taluka panchayat elections, but bagged 27 seats in the civic body polls.

Of the 1,840 seats in the 68 municipalities, BJP won 1,341, while 252 seats went to Cong, 151 to Independents, 43 to BSP and 27 to AAP. Others got 8 seats. BJP won 55 of the 78 seats in three taluka panchayats, Congress got 17 and Independents won 6 seats.

BJP also comfortably bagged all the three seats of the municipal corporations of Ahmedabad, Surat and Bhavnagar. The saffron party triumphed on all the 9 district panchayat seats. Of the 88 taluka panchayat seats, it wrested 73, with Congress and AAP getting 12 and 2 seats, respectively, while one seat went to an Independent.

While AAP won 13 seats in Salaya municipality which Congress bagged, Samajwadi Party won the municipalities of Ranavav and Kutiyana in Porbandar district. State BJP president C R Paatil attributed the electoral success to the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah and CM Bhupendra Patel, and the hard work of the party cadre. GPCC chief Shaktisinh Gohil said the results were not disappointing given the circumstances, adding that the party would work harder among the people.

Key member quits SGPC day after chief's resignation

Patiala: A day after Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) chief Harjinder Singh Dhami resigned from his post and as chairperson of the Akal Takht-constituted seven-member panel to oversee the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) membership drive, key member Kirpal Singh Badungar on Tuesday quit the panel, reports **Bharat Khanna**.

Badungar, a former SGPC president, tabled his resignation hours before the scheduled third meeting of the committee in Bahadurgarh, Patiala. Badungar said that despite a third meeting being held, there was uncertainty about who would lead the panel.

The Akal Takht had formed the committee on Dec 2, 2024 to oversee the membership drive and elections for SAD president and other party offices. However, the SAD working committee started the drive on its own. On Monday, Dhami resigned as SGPC chief while taking moral responsibility for Akal Takht Jathedar Raghbir Singh's Feb 13 damning observation on social media against the SGPC executive committee's decision to sack Giani Harpreet Singh as jathedar of Takht Damdama Sahib, one of the five seats of temporal authority of Sikhs. Dhami was appointed head of a committee, tasked with reorganising SAD by initiating a membership drive and making arrangements for the election of its top leadership within six months.

Rahul gets permanent exemption in Savarkar defamation case hearings

Asseem.Shaikh
@timesofindia.com

Pune: The court of special magistrate Amol Shinde passed an order on Tuesday permanently exempting leader of opposition in Lok Sabha **Rahul Gandhi** from attending day-to-day hearings of a defamation case over his alleged objectionable remarks on Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar in London in March 2023.

The court on Jan 10 had granted bail to the Congress MP in the case, filed by Satyaki Savarkar, the grandnephew of the Hindutva ideologue, after he appeared through video conference.

His lawyer, Milind Pawar, had filed an application seeking court's permission to permanently exempt him from day-to-day hearing as he had a busy schedule because he held a Constitutional position.

The court observed, "Gandhi has Z+ security and he is LoP in the Lok Sabha. He has to attend official, political and social programmes all over India with prior approval of his security and day-to-day schedule. The expenses of security are considerable. This court finds that Gandhi should be granted permanent exemption from personal appearance in the case because of law and order issues."

Earlier in the day, Pawar filed another application stating that the Congress MP wanted a detailed recording of evidence in the case.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Diksha @ Diya

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Diksha @ Diya, D/o Kamit Singh, R/o C-1/149, Gali No. 6, Harsh Vihar, Delhi has been missing since 09.02.2025 at about 03:00 PM from 28/60, Kasturba Nagar, Delhi.** In this regard **FIR No. 96/25, U/s 137(2) BNS, Dated 10.02.2025** has been lodged at Police Station Vivek Vihar, Delhi. The description of missing girl is as under:

Name: Diksha @ Diya, Age: 17 Years, Height: 5', Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: White Colour T-Shirt, Blue Colour Jacket, Mehroom Colour Pant and Black Colour Chappal in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing girl please inform P.S. Vivek Vihar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Vivek Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-22150370, 7065036021

DP/1646/SHD/2025

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Ajay @ Chamma S/o Sh. Om Prakash R/o H. No. A-150, Sangam Park, Rana Pratap Bagh, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide **FIR No. 174/2024, U/S 21/25/29 NDPS Act, P.S. Narcotics Cell/OND, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Ajay @ Chamma,** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ajay @ Chamma,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ajay @ Chamma,** of **FIR No. 174/2024, U/S 21/25/29 NDPS Act, P.S. Narcotics Cell/OND, Delhi** is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of **21.03.2025.**

By Order,
Sh. Dhirender Rana
Addl. Sessions Judge/Special Judge (NDPS)
Room No. 207, 2nd Floor
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

DP/2026/Crime/2025 (Court Matter)

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

REETA

GYANVI

General Public is hereby informed that two Female (depicted in the photo) namely **(1) REETA W/o** Vijay, **R/o:** H.No. T-43, Punjabi Basti, Baljeet Nagar, Anand Parbat, Delhi **Age**-35 Yrs, has been reported missing along with her Daughter **(2) GYANVI D/o** Vijay, **Age**-6 Yrs since 12.02.2025 around 5.30 PM from their Residence vide, **DD No. 79A, Dated 13.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Anand Parbat, Central Distt., Delhi-05.** Their physical description is as under:

(1) Sex: Female, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Strong, **Wearing:** Off White Saree, Red Stole and Slipper on her Feet. **(2) Sex:** Female, **Wearing:** Unknown

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female & girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female & girl, please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Anand Parbat,
Central Distt., Delhi-110005
Ph. 8750870435, 011-23242020

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/1990/CD/2025

Amid USAID row, Cong calls Irani 'real agent of Soros', BJP cites Dikshit

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Congress said the govt website shows Smriti Irani as a former 'goodwill ambassador' of USAID

New Delhi: Amid a raging controversy over alleged funding by USAID for raising voter turnout in India, Congress on Tuesday said the official govt website showed BJP neta Smriti Irani as a former "goodwill ambassador" of the US agency. Congress functionaries accused Irani of being the "real agent" of billionaire investor George Soros, a charge refuted by BJP.

Karnataka minister Priyank Kharge, in a post on X, said, "According to the govt's official website, Smriti Irani's bio states that she has served as the USAID 'Goodwill Ambassador' to India."

Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera responded to the post, saying, "This is brilliant. We finally have the answer to BJP's favourite question — *Rasoe Mein Kaun Tha?* (who was in the kitchen). The actual agent of George Soros turns out to be Smriti Irani."

BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya refuted the allegations, saying WHO appointed Irani as the ORS Goodwill Brand Ambassador from 2002 to 2005. "At the time, she was a household name due to the immense popularity of the television serial 'Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi'," he said. "The WHO campaign featuring Smriti Irani was endorsed by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), among others, which permitted promotional material to be displayed on its buses. Sheila Dikshit was the Chief Minister of Delhi then," Malviya added. "Here is an excerpt from a report by IIM Indore, which documented the program's success. Do I even need to mention that the Congress-led UPA was in power between 2004 and 2005?" Malviya added. Khera responded saying, the "BJP IT cell coolies are invoking Sheila Dikshit as the one who started the WHO ORS initiative, and thinking they will be able to embarrass us with that. It is something to be proud of".

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Kuldeep Sharma S/o** Rajesh Sharma **R/o** H.No. J-114, Krishan Vihar, Sultanpuri, Delhi, **Age:** 20 years, **Height:** 5'4", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Round, wearing Green colour Shirt, Black colour Jacket, White colour Pant and Black colour Shoes in feet, has been missing/ kidnapped from his house since 13.02.2025 at 9:30 AM. In this regard a **DD No. 110A, dated 14.02.2025** has been lodged at **P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about him please inform undersigned.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi
Ph. No.: 7065036134, 8527313830

DP/2019/OD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Durgawati Devi

General public is hereby informed that this Woman (depicted in the photo) namely **Durgawati Devi W/o Kawleshwar Sah R/o House No. D-1/10A, Gali No. 14, Rama Vihar, Mohammadpur Majri, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her residence since **12.02.2025 at 04:30 PM.** In this regard a FIR No./DD No. **111A, Dated 13.02.2025** has been lodged at **PS Aman Vihar, Distt. Rohini, Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this woman but no clue has come to light so far. Her physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 59 years, **Height:** 5' ft., **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Yellow colour Saree & brown colour Shawl and slippers in feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing woman may kindly inform to the following address:-

SHO
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **PS: Aman Vihar, Delhi**
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in **Ph.: 011-27581223, 25961600**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 **Mob. No: 8750870321**
Fax No.: 011-24368639 **DP/1977/RD/2025**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARENCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shankar S/o Ganga Ram R/o H.No. B-41, Chandan Vihar, Nihal Vihar Phase-II, Delhi** has committed offence in **FIR No. 1014/2023, U/s 22/25 NDPS Act at PS: Shahbad Dairy, New Delhi** and the warrant of arrest issued against him has been returned thereupon, that the said **Shankar** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Shankar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Shankar** in **Case FIR No. 1014/2023 U/s 22/25 NDPS Act of PS: Shahbad Dairy, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **21.03.2025**

By order
Dhirender Rana
ASJ/ (Special Judge, NDPS)
Room No.207, 2nd Floor
District Court, Rohini, Delhi

DP/2028/Crime/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

BHAGMAL

General public is hereby informed that this Person (depicted in the photo) namely **Bhagmal S/o Sh. Shambhuram R/o RZ-30B, Durga Vihar Phase-2, Najafgarh, New Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped from his residence since **18.09.2024.** In this regard a vide FIR No./DD No. **88/25 Dated 12.02.2025, U/s 140(3) BNS** has been lodged at **PS Chhawla, Distt. Dwarka, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this person but no clue has come to light so far. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 65 yrs., **Height:** 5' 6" feet, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Red Colour T-Shirt and green colour checked Trousers.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing boy may kindly inform to the following telephone numbers:-

SHO
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **PS: Chhawla, Delhi**
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in **Ph.: 011-25316300**
Fax No.: 011-24368639 **Mobile: 8750871631**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 **DP/1945/DW/2025**

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of an unknown male **Age:** 45 years, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5'8", **Built:** Normal, **Face:** Round, **Id mark:** Cut mark over right cheek, Hair Black & beared white, was wearing Black & white colour sweater and black colour jeans, was found lying infront of Shop No. 85, Rajinder Market, Khanna Market, near Petrol Pump, Tis Hazari, Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 09A, dated 17.02.2025 has been lodged at P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi.**

His dead body has been preserved in Subzi Mandi mortuary. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23823161, 8750870126, 7503036622

DP/2003/N/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Pinky Bauri

General Public is hereby informed that one Female (depicted in the photo) namely **Pinky Bauri W/o** Suraj, **R/o:** H.No. B-2, Durga Vihar, Neb Sarai, New Delhi, **Age**-29 Yrs, has been reported missing since 07.02.2025 at 11.00 AM from her Residence, vide, **DD No. 117A, Dated 13.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Neb Sarai, South Distt., New Delhi.** Her physical description is as under:

Sex: Female, **Height:** 4'8", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Black Jacket, Jeans & Top and Slipper on her Feet.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Neb Sarai,
South Distt., New Delhi,
Ph.: 9599235027, 8750870835

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/1958/SD/2025

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

Virnada Pathak & Vidya

General Public is hereby informed that one Female & Baby Girl (depicted in the photo) namely **(1) Virnada Pathak W/o** Jagdish Kumar, **R/o:** S-61/3, Indira Gandhi Camp, Nehru Nagar, New Delhi, **Age**-30 Yrs, has been reported missing along with her Daughter Name **(2) Vidya D/o** Jagdish Kumar, **Age**-1 Year 4 Months since 11.02.2025 at 6.00 AM from her Residence vide, **DD No. 51A, Dated 14.02.2025,** registered at **Police Station Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024.** Her physical description is as under:

(1) Sex: Female, **Height:** 4'8", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Status:** Mentally Disturbed, **Identification Mark:** Dil Tattoo on Left Hand & One Front Teeth is Half Broken, **(2) Sex:** Female (Baby Girl), **Height:** 2'0" **Complexion:** Fair.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing female & baby girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing female & baby girl, please inform to the following.

SHO,
Website: https://cbi.nic.in **Police Station Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-24,**
DP/1974/SE/2025 **Ph. 8750870927, 8882733364**

Maha Kumbh has become 'Mrityu Kumbh', says Mamata

Kolkata: Bengal CM **Mamata Banerjee** Tuesday accused UP's BJP govt of turning Maha Kumbh into "Mrityu Kumbh", claiming the Jan 29 stampede death toll was much higher than the official figure and that "bodies were thrown into the river", reports **Rohit Khanna**.

"A total of 30 deaths were reported. Is it correct? However, the real figure is much more than that, and it could be in thousands," the CM said in the assembly. The statements came days after Mamata's INDIA bloc ally and RJD chief Lalu Prasad slammed the arrangements and dubbed Maha Kumbh as "useless".

Mamata accused the UP govt of mismanagement at the event and creating hype without adequate planning. "There were incidents of fire at the mela. I cannot support those who create hype over bodies." "One needs to have a proper plan. There was no planning even on the day Kumbh Mela started. We don't want to do politics. But questions arise over the steps taken after the stampede," she said.

High levels of fecal bacteria in Sangam waters: Report

Alarmed NGT Summons UP Officials

Kushagra.Dixit
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The Sangam waters where millions of devotees have been taking a holy dip every day during the ongoing Maha Kumbh has been found to be contaminated with alarming levels of faecal and total coliform, prompting National Green Tribunal (NGT) to summon UP govt authorities.

A quality assessment report submitted to NGT by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on Feb 3 said the coliform levels — a key indicator of the presence of untreated sewage and human and animal excreta — were found to be 1,400 times the standards in the Ganga and 660 times in the Yamuna at some stretches on a particular day, making the river waters unfit for bathing.

According to CPCB standards, for organised outdoor bathing, the total coliform levels must not exceed 500 MPN (Most Probable Number) per 100ml. However, CPCB found that by Jan 19, total coliform levels had reached a whopping 700,000 MPN/100ml in the Ganga and 330,000 MPN/100ml in the Yamuna. It analysed the samples on Jan 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19, and the total coliform levels never met standards.

CPCB findings not only indicated non-compliance with NGT's earlier directive to maintain critical water quality standards, but also raised concerns over public health and environmental sustainability, the tribunal's principal bench, headed by its chairperson Justice Prakash Shirvastava, noted during a hearing on Feb 17.

The high levels of faecal bacteria in the waters pose significant risks of waterborne diseases, while excessive organic pollution threatens aquatic life and overall river health.

Pointing out that UP Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) had not filed any comprehensive action taken report, as directed by tribunal in Dec last year, the bench ordered the board's member secretary and the state authority responsible for maintaining water quality in river Ganga at Prayagraj to appear before it virtually during the next hearing on Feb 19.

NGT had in Dec asked CPCB and UPPCB to monitor and report the water quality regularly, while also ensuring that untreated sewage did not flow into the two rivers so that the pilgrims who came for a holy bath did not suffer. It directed the agencies to analyse water samples from the rivers at least twice a week at regular intervals.

In compliance, CPCB submitted its report, which said river water quality did not conform to the bathing criteria at all the monitored locations on various occasions.

Jan-Feb samples met standards: UPPCB

A day before its representative is set to appear before NGT over water quality of Ganga and Yamuna in Prayagraj, UP Pollution Control Board said Tuesday that water samples it took from the Maha Kumbh city in Jan-Feb met the prescribed safety standards, reports **Neha Shukla**. The UPPCB findings, which will be submitted before NGT Wednesday, are based on samples collected from six points in Prayagraj, four of which were on Ganga and two on Yamuna, on Jan 12, 16, 20, 25, 30 and Feb 5, 10 and 13. The UP board will submit a report from Jal Nigam. UPPCB member secretary Sanjeev Kumar told **TOI** that 10 STPs and six geotubes were functional on the river stretch in Prayagraj where Kumbh is taking place. Jal Nigam sources said between Jan 1 & Feb 4, over 3,660 MLD water was released in river after treatment. Besides, extra water is released from Tehri dam for dilution of pollutants.

Costa Rica to be 'bridge' for Indians deported by US

San Jose: Costa Rica has agreed to serve as a "bridge" to repatriate illegal immigrants in the US, including from India and Central Asia, according to an official release on Tuesday. The first group of 200 migrants will arrive at Juan Santamaria International Airport on a commercial flight on Wednesday, according to a statement by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Chaves Robles' office.

"Govt of Costa Rica agreed to collaborate with the US in the repatriation of 200 illegal immigrants to their country. These are people originating from countries in central Asia and India," said the statement. The release did not say how many of them are from India.

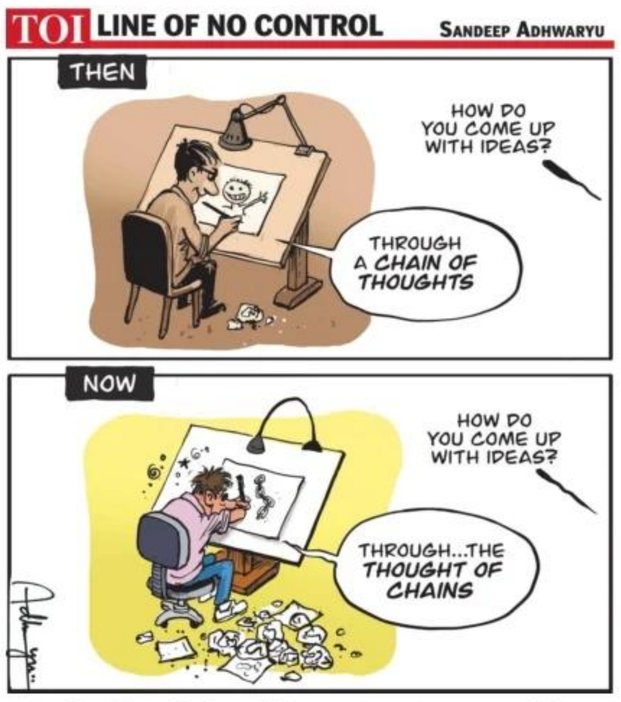
"Costa Rica will serve as a bridge for them to reach their countries of origin," it said.

These immigrants will be transferred to a temporary migrant care facility in the Central American nation before repatriation to their countries of origin.

The US-funded repatriation is being supervised by International Organisation for Migration (IOM), which will oversee the migrants' care during their stay in the country, according to the statement.

This comes days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to US, where he met US President Donald Trump to discuss key bilateral issues, including immigration. PTI

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL — Sandeep Adhwaryu


THEN
HOW DO YOU COME UP WITH IDEAS?
THROUGH A CHAIN OF THOUGHTS
NOW
HOW DO YOU COME UP WITH IDEAS?
THROUGH...THE THOUGHT OF CHAINS

10 dead, 16 injured in separate MP accidents

Ten people died and 16 were injured in separate accidents in two MP districts on Tuesday. In Bhind district, six members of a family died and 15 others were injured when a truck rammed into a stationary pickup van Tuesday morning. All victims were returning from a wedding. On the same day in Rewa district, four people died and one was injured after a truck hit their motorcycles around 8am. As many as 17 people have died and nearly 30 have been injured in a string of accidents in the state since Monday.

The Bhind crash occurred on the outskirts of Jawaharpura village, around 90km from Gwalior. The victims — relatives of the bride — were sitting in the pickup van and were about to leave around 5am when tragedy struck. TNN

Kuki students' union fills study void, sets up schools for displaced

Kangkan.Kalita1
@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO) has operated six community schools since March last year in Churachandpur and three other neighbouring districts of strife-torn Manipur. These schools offer a glimmer of hope to over 2,000 students from internally displaced families.

More than 90% of the students are from families who had to abandon their homes during the conflict, with many dwellings destroyed and numerous families losing members during the violence that erupted in May 2023.

The KSO schools are filling a void. They are helping hundreds in camps continue with studies when nearby govt schools have been overwhelmed by the sudden rise in number of students from the displaced families.

These schools offer a glimmer of hope to over 2,000 students from internally displaced families

After joining these KSO schools, which have classes up to seventh standard, the students are now progressing in their academic journey. Upon completing the seventh standard, one batch qualified for the next level and joined Class 8 in nearby govt schools. The students in other lower classes also demonstrated improvement, according to KSO officials.

"After the conflict erupted in Manipur, leading to the displacement of thousands, enrolment in govt schools increased to almost triple their capacity. Dropouts became prevalent (among the displaced)," said Prasun Goswami, an Assam-based academician who campaigns for child rights during armed conflicts.

KSO launched a project "Zero Dropout" in Oct 2023, sustaining its schools through donations and crowdfunding. "About 10 relief camps were set up in Tuibong, from where a considerable number of students started coming to our school," KSO's Churachandpur district general secretary DJ Haokip told **TOI** Tuesday.

Man kills woman, then stabs self in Surat

The body of a 20-year-old woman, with her throat slit, was found near a severely injured man, also 20, by the roadside at Mangrol taluka in Gujarat's Surat Tuesday. Police suspect the woman did not want to continue her relationship with the man, so he first killed her and then slit his neck. A knife and a razor blade were found from the spot. Tejasvi Chaudhary and Suresh Jogi were friends from school. TNN

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

NIT No.	53-2024-25-W-V
Name of work with its location	Civil work in connection with Provision of EI in lieu of mechanical Cabins of TKD (D&F) cabin in the section of SSE/W/M/TKD under ADEN/HNZM **Similar nature of work:-** Any Civil work other than track work.
Approx Cost of work	Rs.17988934.97
Earnest Money Deposit	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note:- FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2010025/CE-I/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) Rs.240000.00
Completion period of Work	06 Months
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs. on 14.03.2025 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. On 14.03.2025
Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

No. 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-V/NIT-53-2024-25-W-V
Date : 18.02.2025 567/2025
Serving Customers With A Smile

NAGAR NIGAM FIROZABAD (NNF)
(UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA)

Letter No: 156/NNF/2024-25 Dt. 18/02/25

Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT)

Municipal Commissioner (MC), Nagar Nigam Firozabad invites item Bids for the work mentioned below through e-Procurement in conformity with the terms and conditions of this advertisement and the detailed tender call notice in two Bid systems (Part-I: General& Technical Bid and Part-II: financial Bid/Price Bid/BOQ) from intending bidders fulfilling the eligibility criteria mentioned in this Notice and other qualifying requirements mentioned in this RFP. Bidders can participate in the bidding after registering them on E-tendering portal http://etender.up.nic.in. Bidder can download the RFP from http://etender.up.nic.in after paying the tender cost through online payment in the name of Nagar Nigam Firozabad, Bank Name- Punjab National Bank. Account No.- 03822011009820, IFSC-PUNB0038210 Bidder will have to upload the scanned copy of transaction slip along with technical bid failing this; the Bid is liable to be rejected. The Bidder should deposit the Earnest Money online in above mentioned account number or through Bank Guarantee from a Nationalized Bank pledged in favor of Municipal Commissioner, Nagar Nigam Firozabad. The scanned copy of the transaction slip should be uploaded along with technical bid. The bidders should have necessary Portal enrollment (Digital Signature Certificate) under e-procurement process of Govt. of Uttar Pradesh in required class/category. In case of any queries on this RFP, intending bidders may contact Chief Engineer, NAGAR NIGAM FIROZABAD.

S.No	Name of the Work	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Tender fee with GST @ 18%	Completion/ Implementation on Period (months)	Operation and Maintenance Period
1	Establishment of 06 Open Gyms in Various Parks under Firozabad Smart City with 2 year Defect Liability Period & Maintainace cost up to 5 years	738547	13981	9 Months	05 Years after the Completion/ Implementation Period

Time schedule for Bidding:

S.No	Description	Critical Dates
1	Upload/Publish of RFP	21.02.2025
2	Bid start Date of RFP	21.02.2025
4	Bid Closing Date/Time of RFP	17.03.2025 (02:00 PM)
5	Technical Bid Opening Date/Time	18.03.2025 (10:00 AM)
6	Financial Bid Opening Date/Time	To be notified

1. Other details can be seen on website http://etender.up.nic.in (for view, download and bidding).
2. Subsequent corrigendum, if required, shall appear in these websites.
3. Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons
4. Contractor who wants to participate in bid must registered themselves on http://etender.up.nic.in
5. For any other queries, please contact Executive Engineer, Nagar Nigam Firozabad. Also, for any further queries, the bidders are advised to send an email to: nagarnigamfzd@gmail.com

Chief Engineer
Nagar Nigam Firozabad

Municipal Commissioner
Nagar Nigam Firozabad

पश्चिम मध्य रेल

President of India, through Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager West Central Railway Bhopal Division, has invited E-Auction for awarding contracts of Commercial Publicity & Space for installation of ATMs. Catalogues are available on IREPS Portal (www.ireps.gov.in). Details of catalogues are as follows:

Catalogue No.	Type of Contract	Lot no.	Contract Period	Date and Time of Close of E-Auction
C-BPL-PUB-FEB		ADVT-BPL-ET-OSD-145-25-1	05 Years	27.02.2025 at 15:30 hrs
C-BPL-PUB-LED	Publicity	ADVT-BPL-GUNA-OSN-181-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 15:30 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-SVPI-OSN-180-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 15:40 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-BPL-OSN-174-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 15:50 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-BINA-OSN-176-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 16:00 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-SHRN-OSN-178-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 16:10 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-HD-OSN-179-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 16:20 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-BHS-OSN-177-25-2	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 16:30 hrs
		ADVT-BPL-ET-OSN-175-25-3	03 Years	03.03.2025 at 16:40 hrs
C-BPL-PUB-ATM	ATM	ATM-BPL-BPL-Gen-30-25-1	05 Years	03.03.2025 at 15:30 hrs
		ATM-BPL-BPL-Gen-28-25-1	05 Years	03.03.2025 at 15:40 hrs

All other details, Standard Condition of Contract and Special Condition of Contract are available on www.ireps.gov.in. Participants can visit the portal for details. **Divisional Railway Manager (C) WCR, Bhopal**

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Government of Madhya Pradesh
Office of the Engineer-in-Chief Water Resources Department,
Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsi Nagar, Bhopal (MP.)
Email Id: ceproc.encwrd.bpl@nic.in
Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406

N.I.T. No. 1132/2024-25/E-in-C/e-tendering Bhopal, Dated 17.02.2025

Bids for following works are invited on website **https://www.mptenders.gov.in** Last Date of purchase/download of Bid Document and submission of bid is **13-03-2025 17:30** hrs. Any amendment/modification can be seen only on the website. Detailed N.I.T. and other details can be viewed on above mentioned website.

S No.	Tender No.	Work	District	Amount (Lakhs)
1.	2025_WRD_402572	On Turnkey Basis:- Construction of 07 Nos. Gated Barrages (Sironj Barrage cum Causeway, Ranayar Barrage, Daknakhedi Barrage, Patada Barrage cum Causeway, Tigariya Goga Barrage, Barod Pipliya Barrage and Gajnodkheda Barrage) across Shipra River & its Tributary, as per detailed scope of work but not limited to that.	Dewas	2070.25

G-23198/24 Sd/-
''पॉक्सो है सुरक्षा का हथियार, बच्चों पर न करें अत्याचार'' Chief Engineer (Procurement)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER (MSME), NEW DELHI

Notice Inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) for Empanelment of Implementing Agencies for FY 2025-26

Office of the Development Commissioner (MSME) invites applications from eligible Implementing Agencies (IAs) for their empanelment to organize training programs under the Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) for FY 2025-26, as per the scheme guidelines (can be downloaded from the portal **https://dcmsme.gov.in/ESDP-Guidelines-new-01-04-2022.pdf**).

The Entrepreneurship and Skill Development Programme (ESDP) aims to promote self-employment and entrepreneurship by providing technical and managerial training. It focuses on skill enhancement, capacity building for MSMEs, fostering innovation, and generating employment. The programme ensures inclusive growth, targeting youth, women, and disadvantaged groups to drive economic development through technical upskilling and business innovation.

Eligibility Criteria for Empanelment

- Proven experience in organizing skill development and entrepreneurship programmes.
- Adequate infrastructure and resources to conduct high-quality training.
- Willingness to adopt digital platforms for monitoring and evaluation.

Who Can Apply

Institutions: IITs, IIMs, NITs, Technology Centers (TCs), Tool Rooms, Central Autonomous body under the Ministry of Education (MoE) Government of India, and Institutes from Central and State Government departments and organizations etc.

How to Apply

Interested organizations can submit their application in the prescribed format (can be downloaded from the official website at **www.dcmsme.gov.in**.) along with supporting documents through email to **esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in**, latest by **20th March, 2025.** Applicants must include detailed proposals specifying the geographical coverage of the training programs and the areas of specialization for advanced courses. Furthermore, the distribution of the ESDP programmes to the Implementing Agencies will be based on the mandate to ensure a balanced distribution and maintain the prescribed ratio of various scheme components.

For More Details, Visit: **www.dcmsme.gov.in** or contact the following address:

Joint Director (ESDP) O/o DC (MSME),
Room No.731, A-Wing, 7th Floor, Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road,
New Delhi – 110011, Email: **esdp.div@dcmsme.gov.in**

CBC 25113/12/0166/2425

Government of Maharashtra
School Education & Sports Department
Samagra Shiksha
Maharashtra Prathamik Shikshan Parishad
Mittal Hospital, 9th & 10th, Floor, Netaji Subhash Marg, Charni Road,
Mumbai 400 002 mpspmah@gmail.com

No.MPSP/SS/Computer/2024-25/474 Date: 17/02/2025

E-Tender Notice

Maharashtra Prathamik Shikshan Parishad, Charni Road, Mumbai invites proposals from reputed and experienced bidder to participate in online competitive bidding process of e-tender for "**Supply of Digital Interactive Board** in 311 PMSHRI Schools of Maharashtra State.

No.	Information	Date & Time
1	Tender Release	18.02.2025
2	Online Tender Sale/Purchase	18.02.2025 at 11.00 am to 04.03.2025 at 4.00 pm
3	Pre-bid Meeting	24.02.2024 at 11.00 am at Maharashtra Prathamik Shikshan Parishad, Charni Road, Mumbai 400 002.
4	Online Bid Submission	dt.18.02.2025 at 11.00 am upto 04.03.2025 at 4.00 pm
5	Technical Bid Opening	04.03.2025 at 4.30 pm
6	Commercial Bid Opening	Will be communicated later

1. For complete and detailed tender documents and information, please log on to https://mahatenders.gov.in/
2. State Project Director, Maharashtra Prathamik Shikshan Parishad, Mittal Hospital, 9th & 10th Floor, Charni Road, Mumbai reserves the rights to accept or reject any or all offers in full/part without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Sd/-
(R. Vimala, I.A.S.)
State Project Director
M.P.S.P., Mumbai.

DGIPR/2024-2025/6545

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS

E-tender Notice no. 32 of 2024-25 Dated: 17.02.2025

Sr. No.	E-Tender No & Name of Work	Approximate NIT Cost	EMD Cost
1	DRM-ADI-208-2024-25 Elimination of 04 Nos. level crossings by providing road under bridges between Adesar -Kidiyanagar stations in Palanpur- Samakhiali Section under jurisdiction of Sr.DEN(NW)-ADI.	39,87,93,626.32	21,44,000.00
2	DRM-ADI-209-2024-25 Elimination of 04 Nos. level crossings by providing road under bridges between Kidiyanagar- Chitrod stations in Palanpur- Samakhiali section under jurisdiction of Sr.DEN(NW)-ADI.	38,07,18,803.57	20,53,600.00
3	DRM-ADI-210-2024-25 Elimination of 04 Nos. level crossings level crossings by providing road under bridges between Chitrod - Samakhiali stations in Palanpur- Samakhiali Section under jurisdiction of Sr.DEN(NW)-ADI.	36,09,58,187.46	19,54,800.00
4	DRM-ADI-211-2024-25 Palanpur- Samakhiyali Section - Elimination of level crossings by providing road under bridges under Divisional Engineer (North) - Ahmedabad. (LC no. 4,19,38,45)	36,25,85,997.38	19,62,900.00
5	DRM-ADI-212-2024-25 Mahesana Viramgam Section Elimination of level crossings by providing road under bridges under Divisional Engineer (North) - Ahmedabad. (LC No. 13,15,21,22)	36,10,80,255.28	19,55,400.00
6	DRM-ADI-213-2024-25 Fabrication of glued joints work in the jurisdiction of DEN (NW)-ADI. (Chargeable to KRCL)	1,19,11,286.21	2,09,600.00
7	DRM-ADI-214-2024-25 Construction of EI building and Civil work in connection with provision of additional loop line at Chandlodiya and other ancillary works under jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (Works) Ahmedabad (Composite work).	17,33,46,804.41	10,16,700.00
8	DRM-ADI-215-2024-25 Structural Improvement to various ROBS & RUBs and other ancillary works under Jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (Works) Ahmedabad	2,33,57,425.06	2,66,800.00
9	DRM-ADI-216-2024-25 Construction of Type-III and Type-IV quarters for JE/SSE(Works) and S &T office in Ahmedabad area & other ancillary works under jurisdiction of Divisional Engineer (Works)-Ahmedabad (Composite work).	2,05,29,947.71	2,52,700.00
10	DRM-ADI-217-2024-25 In Situ reconditoninn of CMS crossing by using Translamatc Robotc Welding technolony as approved by RDSO in the jurisdicton of Divisional Ennineer (North)-Ahmedabad.	91,13,714.47	1,82,300.00
11	DRM-ADI-218-2024-25 Viramgam -Samakhiyali Section Elimination of level crossings by providing Road Under Bridges at Level Crossing No. 57, 70, 71, 105 under jurisdiction of Senior Divisional Engineer (West) Ahmedabad.	35,96,90,687.87	19,48,500.00
12	DRM-ADI-219-2024-25 Ahmedabad: Rag picking and cleaning of tracks under jurisdiction of Senior Section Engineer (P.Way) Ahmedabad	1,16,37,287.04	2,08,200.00
13	DRM-ADI-220-2024-25 Ahmedabad-Mehsana Section Pre. & post tamping measurement survey using timble Gedo vorsys trolley system under juris. of Sr.DEN (South) Ahmedabad	49,22,052.67	98,500.00
14	DRM-ADI-221-2024-25 Civil work in connection of Chandlodiya (B) Cabin: Provision of one loop line (CSR 720 M) adjacent to line no 05 (15.01.16.24.3.50.008) & Sabarmati D Cabin Connecting Shunting Neck of ICD (D Cabin end) with BTD Main Line along with electrification of coaching terminal (15.01.16.24.3.50.006)	7,47,74,892.91	5,23,900.00

Closing date & time of e-tender : Date 11/03/2025 Time 15:00 Hrs **Office Address :** Senior Divisional Engineer (Cord.) Ahmedabad, D.R.M. Office, Near Chamunda Bridge, Opposite New Swadeshi Mill, Naroda Road, Amdupura, Ahmedabad- 382345 **Website for participating e-tender :** www.ireps.gov.in 326

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Cruel Campus: Bruised & Bullied

The brutal methods deployed in ragging students are scarring their lives forever, sometimes even forcing a few to suicide

Disney.Tom@timesofindia.com

Unimaginably brutal acts of ragging are surfacing in Kerala's schools and colleges. In one case, a student was forced to lick toilet seats; in another, a boy was stripped half-naked and dumbbells were placed on his genitals. Over the past six weeks, six cases of ragging have been reported across the state's educational institutions. What is more horrific is the magnitude of the violent deeds deployed by the perpetrators for minor reasons like not providing the seniors money to celebrate a birthday party or in some cases, standing up against the ruling political hegemony in the campus.

Three cases have emerged from medical colleges under the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS)—Sree Narayana Institute of Medical Sciences, Govt Medical College Konni, and Malabar Medical College. Two cases were reported in University of Kerala-affiliated colleges—Sree Narayana College, Varkala, and CSI Institute of Legal Studies.

The latest incident took place at the Govt College of Nursing, Kottayam, under the directorate of medical education (DME). This was the most brutal of all, in which the victim was tortured with a divider, and dumbbells were placed on his genitals.

Ragging is now being reported in schools as well.

In Kannur, Class 12 students broke a junior's shoulder for allegedly "disrespecting them". In Kochi, a mother claimed her Class 9 son took his own life after being bullied at school, though authorities denied any ragging incident.

In 90% of cases, both victims and perpetrators are male, with colleges under UGC being the main hotspots. Unlike the national trend, where medical colleges report the highest ragging cases, Kerala sees fewer incidents in these institutions.

The rise in student drug and alcohol abuse is also a major concern. "Drug addiction may also be fueling violence on campuses. We must act immediately to prevent this dangerous trend," said KUHS vice chancellor Dr Mohanan Kunnummal, who is also the VC of the University of Kerala.

Gaurav Singal from Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE), an anti-ragging NGO, pointed out systemic failures: "At present Kerala is in the news, but the problem is seen on campuses across India. Toothless anti-ragging laws, insensitivity of institutional heads to the issue as they are more concerned with burying the issue rather than stopping it and the degradation of the next generation, especially of alpha males, who are probably consuming a lot of mental poison and vomiting it out on others are the real challenges," he said.

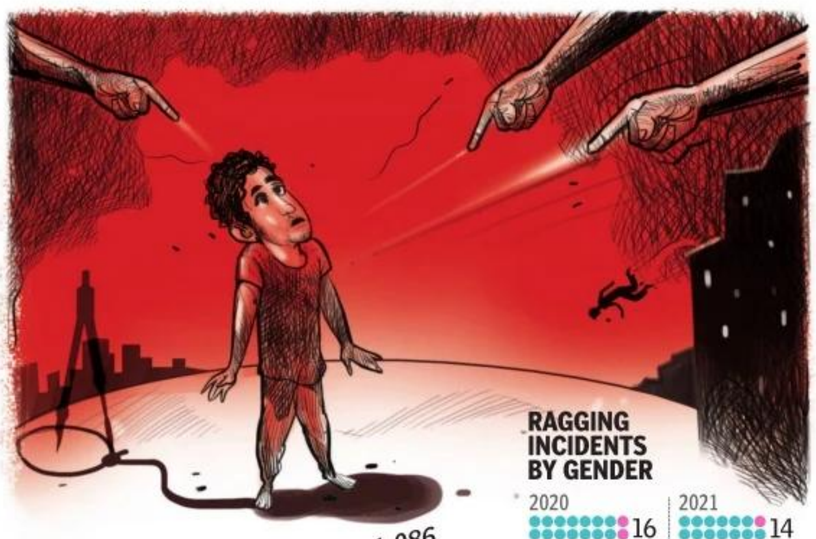
A SAVE survey found that in most cases, including the incident in Kottayam, the official anti-ragging helpline failed to work. Shockingly, 95% of institutions did not file a police complaint as required by law, acting only when public outrage erupted.

Adding to the problem is the political patronage given to the accused in the name of student politics. "The severity of physical assault during ragging is increasing. There is outright cruelty involved in it. The minds of these children have become so cruel that they lack empathy," said Dr C J John, senior consultant psychiatrist at Medical Trust Hospital.

LAW NEEDS URGENT REFORM

"It is high time we update this law. When the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act was framed in 1998, it may not have been foreseen that ragging would escalate into such heinous crimes. Back then, it was about forcing juniors to drink alcohol or making them shed clothes. Now, we must amend the law to ensure that bail isn't granted easily in such cases

—**T ASAF ALI,** FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PROSECUTION, KERALA

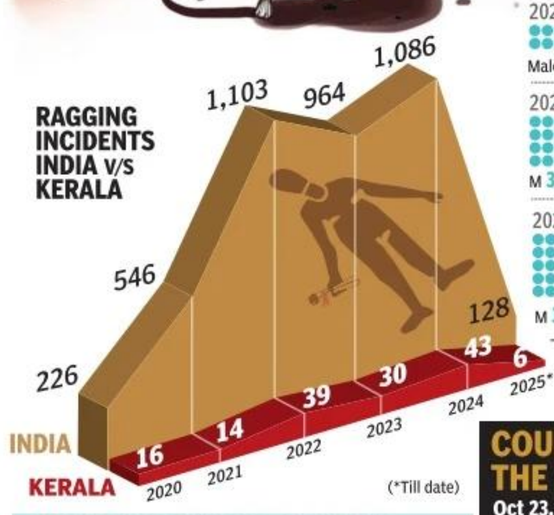


RAGGING INCIDENTS BY GENDER

2020: 16 (Male 14, Female 2)
2021: 14 (M 13, F 1)
2022: 39 (M 33, F 6)
2023: 30 (M 24, F 5, Transgender 1)
2024: 43 (M 38, F 5)
2025*: 6 (M 5, F 1)

SUICIDES: 2024: 3 (M 2, F 1); 2025*: 1

RAGGING INCIDENTS INDIA V/S KERALA



(*Till date)

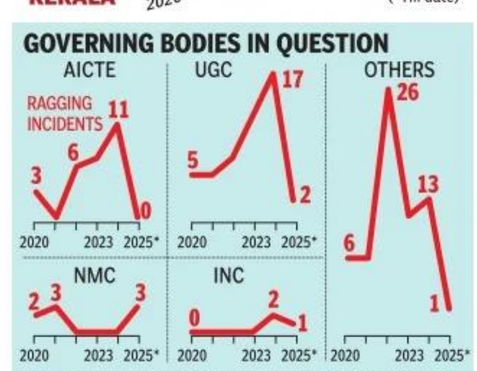
HORROR STORIES FROM CAMPUSES

Feb 2025: At the Govt College of Nursing in Kottayam, a video exposed seniors brutally torturing a first-year student, who was tied to a bed, pierced with a divider and subjected to further acts of cruelty, including having dumbbells placed on private parts

Jan 15, 2025: Mihir Ahammed, a Class IX student of Global Public School, jumped to his death from the 26th floor of his Kochi apartment. His parents alleged he was ragged by seniors, forcibly taken to the washroom, and humiliated

Feb 2024: JS Sidharthan (21) was stripped, humiliated, and brutally assaulted with belts and cable wires during a public trial at the College of Veterinary College in Pookode. Later, he was found hanging in the hostel bathroom

GOVERNING BODIES IN QUESTION



AICTE: All India Council for Technical Education; **NMC:** Nat'l Medical Council; **UGC:** Univ Grants Commission; **INC:** Indian Nursing Council

2009 SUPREME COURT VERDICT

Mandated implementation of Raghavan Committee recommendations

- **Key recommendations:** Regulatory bodies to consider ragging status in accreditation | Establish anti-ragging cells | Toll-free helpline for victims | Strict anti-ragging law; burden of proof on accused | Include ragging awareness in NCERT & SCERT books | Colleges to hold monitored junior-senior interactions

COUNTERING THE MENACE

Oct 23, 1998: Kerala Anti-Ragging Act comes into force

- **Definition of ragging:** Any disorderly conduct causing physical or psychological harm to students
- **Actions causing fear, shame, or embarrassment Includes:** teasing, abuse, practical jokes, physical harm, and forced activities
- **Legal consequences**

FOR STUDENTS: Non-bailable offence | Up to 2 years imprisonment | Fine of ₹10,000 | Exam debarment | Result withholding | Suspension | Admission cancellation | College expulsion

FOR INSTITUTION HEADS: Can be charged with abetting ragging if they neglect to act | May face suspension during initial inquiry

- **Cases involving minors** FIRs typically not registered unless offence is severe (e.g., murder) | Accused treated as "child in conflict with law"
- **Institutional response patterns** Initial Stage: Often maintain silence | Attempt to "settle" matters | Try to avoid institutional embarrassment
- **Common loopholes used to dismiss cases** Lack of witnesses or formal complaints | Student reluctance due to fear of retaliation | Dismissal as "familiarization" or "initiation"
- **Vulnerable student groups** Economically/socially backward students | Vocal and popular juniors | Introverted students | Those who question senior authority

(Source: Govt of India's ministry of education national anti-ragging helpline)

Text input: **Disney Tom;** Illustration: **Gireesh;** Graphic: **Karthic R Iyer**

Kerala college suspends 7 amid ragging outrage

CPM Wing SFI's Role Sparks Political Row

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Thiruvananthapuram: Amid a nationwide outrage over brutal ragging at Kottayam govt nursing college, Kariavattom Govt College in Thiruvananthapuram has suspended seven final-year degree students accused of assaulting and torturing a first-year biotechnology student, based on findings of the institute's anti-ragging committee.

The 19-year-old BSc first-year student, Binz Jose from Vattappara, had lodged a complaint with police and college authorities on Feb 11.

While the college instituted an internal inquiry, cops booked the seven accused for unlawful assembly, rioting, wrongful restraint, voluntarily causing hurt and possessing lethal weapons under sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Police have now also invoked section 4 of Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1998, against these students, after the college principal submitted a report to them.

The accused students were identified as Alan, Anandan, Velu, Salman, Shravan, Pardhan and Immanuel.

The latest case comes amid a public outcry over the brutal torture of junior students at the Kottayam nursing college and a few other similar instances.

The involvement of students linked to CPM's student wing SFI in such cases has triggered a political row, with both Congress and BJP representatives demanding that the outfit be disbanded.

Jose told television channels on Tuesday that he had lodged a complaint with police and college authorities on the day of the assault itself. He also alleged that the accused students had threatened him with consequences if he told anyone about the assault.

@KeralaGovernor

Kerala governor Rajendra Arlekar with Lakshmana Perumal, father of Shri Ligin who was ragged at the Kottayam nursing college

155 establishments fail to meet digital access standards, fined

New Delhi: Court of the Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities has imposed a penalty of Rs 10,000 each on nearly 155 establishments for failing to comply with accessibility standards for websites, mobile applications and other digital platforms, reports **Ambika Pandit**. These include most central ministries, their departments and several private establishments.

The chief commissioner of persons with disabilities (CCPD) proposes to impose higher penalties on the establishments that fail the compliance review to be held after Feb 28. The establishments have been asked to deposit the penalty amount in National fund for Persons with Disabilities.

The letter sent out by the court to all ministries, departments and CEOs of private establishments shows that only 20 establishments have appointed an access auditor for scrutinising and verifying if the websites, portals and apps comply with accessibility standards.

India's first private PSLV set for launch later this yr, to test 35 new technologies

Chethan.Kumar
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: India's first privately manufactured Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), being built by a consortium of HAL and L&T, will carry a technology demonstration satellite (TDS-1) that will test up to 35 new indigenous technologies.

Isro chairman V Narayanan revealed this in an exclusive interview with **TOI** and said the launch, scheduled for the third quarter of this year, will mark a milestone as the first PSLV manufactured by the private sector under a contract for five rockets. The vehicle is in "advanced stages of realisation", with Isro providing technical guidance to the industrial partners.

"It is called a technology demonstration satellite (TDS-1)... There are 35 experimental things. Among other things, along with chemical propulsion, we are also going to use electric propulsion. We are also going to demonstrate an indigenous atomic clock and quantum payloads. So, a lot of things are in the store. And right now, the payload is getting realised," Narayanan said.

Photo for representation

The vehicle is in 'advanced stages of realisation', with Isro providing technical guidance to the industrial partners

The final number of experiments, targeted at 35, will be confirmed later. In TDS-1, Isro will test a 300 milli-Newton (300 mN) electric propulsion thruster developed at Isro's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), which Narayanan headed before taking over as Isro chairman. The new thruster is currently undergoing lifecycle testing.

He said Isro earlier tried a 75 mN thruster on GSAT-9, but what will go on TDS-1 "will be the first time an entirely indigenous system will be deployed," Narayanan said. The organisation earlier developed associated components like the power processing unit, control systems, and propellant tankage internally.

In the wide-ranging interview, Narayanan also detailed Isro's Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) programme. "...Our first launcher, SLV-3, had the capability of putting around 35-40 kg into Low Earth Orbit (LEO). From that, our heaviest rocket (LVM-3) is capable of taking around 8,500 kg to LEO. Now, in NGLV, the lift of mass will be around 1,000 tonnes and height of the vehicle is 93m, more than a 30- 35-storey building height," he said.

"NGLV will feature three propulsive stages and two strap-on boosters. The core stage will be powered by nine LOX-methane engines, each generating 110 tonnes of thrust, with a propellant loading of 475 tonnes. The second stage will use two LOX-methane engines of the same class with 128 tonnes of propellant. The upper stage will use an LOX-hydrogen cryogenic engine (the C-32) with 32 tonnes of propellant capacity," Narayanan said.

He said the configuration study was completed and Isro was in the process of development of subsystems; for example, engines. "The design for 11 LOX-methane engines (nine in core stage and two in second stage) has been finalised and we are in the process of giving clearances for fabrication," he said.

Mission studies have been completed, while rocket structures and tankage designs are ongoing, he said, adding that Isro is currently in discussions with industry partners for manufacturing while simultaneously developing necessary test facilities.

No cut for Uber auto drivers, riders can now negotiate fare

Chennai: Uber on Tuesday made a major change in its fare model by scrapping commission charges for auto drivers and switching to a fixed subscription-fee system, similar to Namma Yatri and Rapido, reports **Ram Sundaram**. Significantly, fares displayed in the app will be only suggestive, with final pricing left to direct negotiation between drivers and passengers, as the platform will no longer intervene in fare disputes.

In a notification that is applicable across India, the platform clarified that it will now act only as a tech intermediary. An Uber spokesperson said the shift aligns with the industry-wide move towards subscription-based models and ensures the company remains competitive.

However, Uber did not disclose how much will be charged as a daily subscription or platform fee from its drivers from this month-end.

Auto drivers on other platforms currently pay 25 to 30 per shift, after which they retain the full fare collected from passengers. There are no commission deductions, no cap on the number of trips, and earnings depend entirely on workload. Previously, Uber deducted 25% to 40% per ride, leading to discontent and a partial boycott in Chennai.

Passengers will have the option to walk away from a ride with no cancellation charges if they do not agree on a fare. Uber advised riders to discuss concerns directly with drivers, as they are best placed to understand local conditions. Additionally, all payments must now be made directly to the driver in cash or via UPI

Uber, however, claimed that it would continue to address safety concerns.

Nepal seeks action, threatens to stop sending students to Odisha

Kathmandu: Nepal govt on Tuesday said that it may stop issuing no objection certificates to students who wish to study in educational institutes in Odisha if the situation arising from the death of a student in a Bhubaneswar university is not resolved justifiably and legally. The issue was also raised in Nepal Parliament.

Prakriti Lamsal (20), a third-year B Tech (computer science) student at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), allegedly died by suicide at her hostel room on Sunday afternoon, leading to unrest on the campus.

Nepal's ministry of education, science and technology in a statement said that it may suspend the issuance of NOC in the future to students wishing to study in any university or educational institution in Odisha.

The ministry also appealed to the concerned people, including the guardians and students of the university, for observing patience and said the ministry has formed a help desk to facilitate effective resolution of problems arising from the incident.

"The ministry is continuously making diplomatic efforts through ministry of foreign affairs to ensure a conducive environment for resuming the studies of Nepalese students," the statement said.

Meanwhile, members of Nepalese Parliament, including Shishir Khanal, Bina Lama, Sita Mijar, Sher Bahadur Kunwar and Shanti Bika, raised the issue related to the KIIT incident in House of Representatives during zero hour on Tuesday.

They extended condolences to the bereaved family members of the Nepalese student and asked Nepal govt to make necessary diplomatic efforts to ensure inquiry of the death of the student and resolve the problems related to other Nepalese students studying in KIIT.

Meanwhile, Nepalese foreign minister Arzu Rana Deuba has said that the ministry is continuously following up on the death of the student in KIIT and the situation that developed thereafter. "Two senior police officers from the Nepalese embassy in New Delhi reached the college on Tuesday morning to learn about the situation and to ensure the safety of Nepalese students," Deuba wrote on X. PTI

PTI

Police personnel keep vigil at the KIIT campus amid protests over the death of a Nepalese student in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday

India-Japan drill at Mount Fuji from Feb 25

New Delhi: India and Japan will next week kick off 'Dharma Guardian' military combat exercise at Mount Fuji, continuing with the upward trajectory in their bilateral military engagements and defence cooperation. The aim of the exercise, slated from Feb 25 to March 9, is to enhance interoperability between the two forces while undertaking joint urban warfare and counter-terrorism operations, an officer said.

India is dispatching around 120 soldiers from the Madras Regiment, among others, for the 6th edition of the exercise, which will see the two armies also share their best practices in tactics, techniques and procedures. India and Japan have cranked up their military-to-military ties in recent years, with 'Dharma Guardian' exercise between their armies, JIMEX between navies and 'Veer Guardian' between air forces, with an eye firmly on China in the Indo-Pacific. TNN

Honeytrap? NIA nabs 2 who leaked Karwar base info to Pak

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Karwar: National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two individuals from Uttara Kannada district for allegedly leaking sensitive information about Karwar naval base to Pakistan in an alleged case of honey-trapping, sources said Tuesday.

An NIA team from Hyderabad took the accused — Vetana Tandel from Muduga village and Akshay Naik from Halavalli — into custody on Tuesday.

Investigators suspect the accused were trapped by Pakistani intelligence agencies through honey-traps. A woman agent allegedly befriended them on Facebook in 2023 and coaxed them into providing classified details about activities in the naval area, details of warships, their arrival and departure, and security information.

In Aug 2024, NIA had questioned three individuals — Tandel, Naik and Sunil, from Todur — regarding the suspected espionage. While they were initially released, the agency continued to track their activities.

The accused reportedly shared photographs of the Karwar base and details of naval movements in exchange for money, said to be a monthly payout of Rs 5,000 for eight months. The espionage ring was exposed following the 2023 arrest of Deepak and others in Hyderabad by NIA. Authorities have traced financial transactions linking the accused to the espionage network. Tandel and Naik were employed on contract with Iron and Mercury, a company in Chandya region of Karwar. Sunil, a former contract worker at Seabird naval base canteen, is now a driver.

NIA is interrogating the arrested individuals and has sought information on their activities. Officials are in discussions with Sea Bird officers. More arrests are likely as authorities suspect a wider network in the case. INS Kadamba — also known as Naval Base Karwar or Project Seabird — is a crucial Indian Navy base in Karnataka. It is the third largest naval base in India and set to become the largest in the eastern hemisphere after ongoing expansion.

₹5K MONTHLY PAYOUT

- Investigators suspect a Pakistani intelligence agent **befriended** the two arrested men **on Facebook in 2023**
- Accused allegedly **shared photos of Karwar base** in exchange for a monthly payout of **₹5,000 for eight months**
- INS Kadamba is a crucial Indian Navy base. Both aircraft carriers, **INS Vikramaditya and INS Vikrant,** are stationed here

Correction

In the report, 'F-35 for India: A game-changer or costly trap' (**TOI** edition dated Feb 18), Air Vice Marshal Pranay Sinha (retd) was described as a former fighter pilot. In fact, he is a former technical officer with long experience of handling IAF's Sukhois. The error is regretted.

BJD raises issue in assembly, ties it to 'Odisha lawlessness'

▶ **Continued from P 1**

Women and child development secretary Shubha Sarma and higher education secretary Aravind Agrawal are the other two members of the inquiry committee.

"Reports of misconduct, including the use of force against students by private individuals, are being investigated, and those responsible shall be held accountable per the law," the state govt said.

KIIT suspended three other officials and dismissed the two arrested security guards while issuing an apology for their alleged misconduct.

"We are extremely appalled by the untoward incident that took place on our campus on the evening of Feb 16. We are also regretful of the way some of us behaved with the agitating students. We love our students and have never done any disservice to them," the deemed-to-be university said.

The student accused of harassment was arrested on Monday, based on a complaint by a cousin of the deceased.

The commotion on campus almost snowballed into a diplomatic row, with Nepal's PM K P Sharma Oli putting out a statement on his Facebook page about students from Nepal being "forcibly evicted" from their hostels. He later posted on X that the Nepal embassy had deputed two officials to stand by the students and requested New Delhi's intervention. KIIT gave the Nepalese students the option of returning to campus soon after.

In the assembly, BJD MLA Pratap Keshari Deb sought to link what happened at KIIT to the alleged lawlessness in Odisha. Outside the assembly, fellow BJD MLA Goutam Buddha Das said, "Govt failed to handle the sensitive issue, because of which it escalated and Odisha was defamed."

Congress MLA Tara Prasad Bahinipati called for a judicial investigation and threatened a sit-in on the assembly premises if govt didn't order one.

"We are committed to ensure safety and security of all the students including those from Nepal. In case of any difficulty, the students can approach us 24x7 on 8280338301," commissioner of police S Dev Datta Singh said.

Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority
UPSIDA Complex : A-1/4, Lakhanpur, Kanpur-208024

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)-FOOTWEAR PARK-KANPUR NAGAR

Uttar Pradesh is rapidly expanding its industrial landscape. In this endeavour Uttar Pradesh State Industrial development Authority (UPSIDA) invites "Expression of Interest" from interested Industrial Firms/Agencies/Units for Development of Footwear & Accessories Manufacturing Industrial Area at Ramaipur in Kanpur Nagar District. UPSIDA intends to gauge interest from interested players to set up Leather/Non-Leather Footwear & Accessories Manufacturing units on this land.

- EoI documents can be downloaded from www.onlineupsida.com
- Responses to be submitted at rmkanpur@upsida.co.in & iasectionupsidc@gmail.com
- Contact Mr. Mansoor Katiyar, Regional Manager, Kanpur, Mob No. 8707503785

Chief Executive Officer
U.P. State Industrial Development Authority

Central Store (H.Q.)
Bihar Agricultural University
Sabour-813210, (Bhagalpur), Bihar

E-Tender No. 04/CS(HQ.), BAU, Sabour **Date: 18/02/2025**

E-tenders are invited from reputed/registered supplier/ Dealers/Firms/Company/ Enterprise for the **"Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning (SITC) of Laboratory Setup at College of Agricultural Biotechnology, BAU, Sabour, Bhagalpur"**. Details of this tender are available on **www.bausabour.ac.in** and **www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in**.

Sd/-
O/I, Central Store (HQ.)

National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE)
Promoted By: RBI, SEBI, IRDAI & PFRDA
6th Floor, NISM Bhavan, Plot No. 82, Sector-17, Vashi, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400 703 Phone:022-68265114/115 Emailid: info@ncfe.org.in

ADDENDUM TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

NCFE is inviting EOI for selection of a suitable company for providing **Print and Digital Media Services.** Interested companies may furnish Expression of Interest with all the necessary documents on or before **March 03, 2025 by 17:00 hrs**.The EOI document may be downloaded from NCFE's website **www.ncfe.org.in/tenders**

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any, will be published at www.ncfe.org.in only

MAHARASHTRA REMOTE SENSING APPLICATION CENTRE NAGPUR
(Autonomous Body of Planning Department, Govt. of Maharashtra)
VNIT Campus, South Ambazari, Road, Nagpur-440010 (M.S.)
Tele No.: 0712-2220086/2238576 Email : info-nagpur@mrsac.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM-1 to
e-Tender Notice No: MRSAC/SI/01/2025

With reference to above tender notice published, all the prospective bidders may please note that the last date of tender submission has been extended up to **27th February, 2025. The details are as under: Last date of online bid submission: 27.2.2025 up to 1700 Hrs., Date of online bid opening: 28.2.2025 at 1130 Hrs.** All other contents of the tender notice and tender document as well as clarifications remains unchanged. The Director, MRSAC also reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or cancel entire bidding process without assigning any reasons thereof.

Director, MRSAC, Nagpur

ऑयल एण्ड नेचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन लिमिटेड
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
ONGC

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)
FOR PARTNER(S) SELECTION FOR ETHANE SHIPMENT

ONGC intends to transport ethane from U.S. Gulf Coast beginning from year 2028 for its subsidiary ONGC Petro additions Limited (OPaL). Accordingly, an EOI has been invited for selection of experienced and capable partner(s) towards owning and operating Very Large Ethane Carriers (VLECs) under the Joint Venture framework with ONGC.
For details and downloading of the EOI document, may please visit **https://tenders.ongc.co.in/**

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
noida
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA Authority's official website: **www.noidaauthorityonline.com** & **http://etender.up.nic.in.** Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

(A)

1. **19/DGM/Sr.M. (E&M)-II/2024-25/ET,** Construction of 33KV HT Line and Conversion of 33/11 KV Over head Line into Underground System in different location of Noida. Cost Rs. 4141.95 Lacs.
2. **25/DGM (E&M)/S.M./E/M-III/24-25,** Construction of 33KV Line for connection of 33/11KV Sub-station and Conversion of 33 KV & 11KV Overhead line to Underground system in different places on Noida. Cost Rs. 3575.69 Lacs.
3. **51/GM (E&M)/S.M./E/M-III/24-25,** Construction of Fun Plaza type (Floor) Fountain with Two year Operation and Maintenance at Children Park sector 33A and Arun Vihar ward-7, Park Sector 29, Noida. Cost Rs. 187.34 Lacs.

Which can be uploaded by date:-24.02.2025 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date:- 25.02.2025 at 11.00 AM.

Sd/-
Office **General Manager (E&M)**
Sector-05 **Noida**

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
NEW MILITARY STATION, PO – LAKHAN KALAN, KAPURTHALA – 144601
(AFFILIATED TO CBSE, NEW DELHI)
MOB: 9914923104 WEBSITE: www.apskpt.in

Requires Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff on Fixed Term/ Adhoc/ Reserve Panel (2025-26).

Sr. No.	Post	Qualification
	FIXED TERM BASIS	
01.	TGT – Science, English & Computer Sci/ IT	**Graduate** (with the subject in which employment is sought) with **B.Ed.** and equivalent with minimum **50% marks in each. CTET/TET** qualified with 60% marks. OST/CSB Preferred.
02.	LDC	Ex Serviceman, Graduate or ten years of service as a clerk (for Ex-Servicemen). Computer Literate with Basic knowledge of accounting.
	ADHOC BASIS	
03.	PGT – English, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Computer Sci./ IP, Political Science, Psychology & Physical Education.	**Post-Graduate** (with the subject in which employment is sought) with **B.Ed./ (B.P.Ed. for PGT Physical Education)** and minimum **50% marks in each.**
04.	PRT – All Subjects.	**Graduate** with **2 years Diploma in Elementary Education (D.El.Ed.)/ B.Ed.** with minimum 50% marks in each. **CTET/TET** qualified with 60% marks.
05.	Special Educator	(a) Graduation with B.Ed. (Special Education) or B.Ed. General with one year Diploma in Special Education. (b) RCI Certification required.
06.	PET	Graduate in Physical Education or B.P.Ed
	DAILY WAGE BASIS	
07.	Housekeeping Staff	Basic communication skill with prior experience of working in school as Housekeeping Staff.
08.	Gardner (Mali)	Basic communication skill with prior experience of working as Gardner/ Mali.

Note: Edu. Qualification: As per CBSE byelaws for all the posts. Salary & Eligibility as per AWES rules & regulations. CTET/CSB as applicable. Please apply on the application form given on the school website **(www.apskpt.in)** under "Career" & "Downloads" section along with self-attested copies of certificates and **bank draft of Rs 250/-** in favour of **ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL KAPURTHALA** payable at **KAPURTHALA** by **05 Mar 2025**. School management reserves the right to increase/ decrease/ cancel any vacancy without assigning any reason. No TA/ DA will be admissible. Incomplete application will be rejected.

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

LIMITED E-TENDER
(SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM) INVITATION NOTICE

Name of Work: Erection of OHE works for 2 x 25 KV Traction system between Itarsi to Khandwa section (KM 608 to 658) of Bhopal Division under West Central Railway in the state of MP. **Tender Notice No: KR/CO/EL/ET-KNW/T/08/25 Dtd: 19/02/2025. Completion Period:** 6 (Six) Months. **Estimated Cost:** Rs. 1,66,49,005/- Excluding GST. **EMD:** Rs.2,33,250/-. **Last Date & time for Online Submission Of Tender: 27/02/2025** up to **15.00** Hrs. **Opening of Tender:** On **27/02/2025** at **15.30** Hrs. Amendments / Corrigendum if any, would be uploaded on IREPS website only. **Submission of Tender Documents:** Through IREPS. Manual Tender Documents shall not be accepted.

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
(TW WING), NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
PHONE: 0291-2742336, FAX: 0291-2745259

SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Short term Techno-commercial and Price e-Bids are invited for TNTW-736 for " Supply, Erection, testing and commissioning of 33KV O/H D/C 12 km and S/C 18 KM line (D/C from 132 KV GSS Nathrau to tap proposed)(S/C from tap position to proposed site location at Bhed RD 116-5 Peelwa) and another proposed site location at Hanuman Nagar under Sub-division Osian of Jodhpur District Circle on Turnkey basis". (UBN No. JVV2425WLOB01031). Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening etc are available on our website at **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl** and also at **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.** The bidders, in their own interest are requested to read very carefully the tender documents before submitting the bid only through on line on website www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.

Note :- Interested bidders please note that in future any other notices /information regarding amendment /corrigendum/addendum/dates extension of bid submission eetc for above tender will only be available on website **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl.**

Raj.Samwad/C/24/11868 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (TW)**

किसी सांसद सिफारिश से बिना सीधा संपर्क करें व्हाट्सएप 1800 180 6045

INDRAPRASTHA INSTITUTE of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DELHI
(A State University established by Govt. of NCT Delhi)
विकसित भारत अभियान 1947 TO 2047

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-D), Okhla, New Delhi, a State University established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, invites tenders for the following service contracts for its Campus:

Tender No	Description
02/2025	Tender for canteen services at the Ground floor of the Student Activity cum Dining Centre at IIIT Delhi.
03/2025	Tender for Running of cafeteria services on the Ground floor of Academic Block at IIIT-Delhi.
04/2025	Tender for General Store and Stationary Shop including Photocopy and Printing Services on the Ground floor of Dining Block at IIIT-Delhi.
05/2025	Tender for milk and dairy products and miscellaneous related items outlet on the Ground floor of Dining Block at IIIT-Delhi.

The complete document and Terms and Conditions may be downloaded from the website of IIIT Delhi at https://www.iiitd.ac.in/tenders.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tendering Tender Notice **Date :14.02.2025**

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Jhansi, DRM's office, Jhansi, for and on behalf of President of India invite open Tender through on Line **(E-Tendering)** for the following works.

E-Tender No.: JHS-N-W-06–25	**Approx Cost : Rs. 21992689.19**
Description of work : Provision of S&T work in connection with Construction of Track Machine Sidings at ORC, BIP, AKW, RGU, KHGP and DAYG stations along with the work of PQRS siding at Patara station.	
Earnest Money : Rs. 260000/-	**Cost of Tender form : Nil**
Opening of tender : 10.03.2025 Time **15:00**	
Completion period from issue of letter of acceptance : 12 Months	

• Tender on line can be submitted up to **15:00** hrs on **10.03.2025.** • For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in.**
(NORTH CENTRAL RLY/JHANSI DIVISION-S AND T) **320/25 (D)**

North central railways @ CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

एसजेवीएन लिमिटेड SJVN Limited
(भारत सरकार एवं हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार का संयुक्त उपक्रम)
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.)
नवरत्न सीपीएसई A Navratna CPSE
CIN No. L40101HP1988GOI008409

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

RfQ No: SJVN/CC-Delhi/LO/C&P/4427 **Date:18.02.2025**

SJVN Limited invites OFFLINE Request for Quotation (RfQ) from the eligible Bidders/Applicants for **"Request for Quotation for Securitization of Future Unencumbered free cash flows of Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS)".** The RfQ Document can be downloaded from the websites **www.sjvn.nic.in** & **www.eprocure.gov.in** from 18.02.2025 by 14:00 Hrs up to 11.03.2025 till 14:00 Hrs. The Bid/Application is to be submitted OFFLINE to the RfQ Inviting Authority. The prospective bidders/Applicants are requested to remain updated through above mentioned websites for any clarification or notification concerned with this RfQ as no further information will be published in respect of this RfQ through any other media.

Last Date &Time for submission of Bids/Applications:11.03.2025 till 14:00 Hrs.
Date &Time of opening of Bids/ Applications : 11.03.2025 at 14:30 Hrs.
Dy. General Manager (C&P)
6th Floor,Tower 1, NBCC Office Complex, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi-110023 Ph.- 011-61901906/61901953
E-mail – sjvn.contractsdelhi@sjvn.nic.in

Our Shared Vision: 25000 MW by 2030; 50000 MW by 2040

DELHI PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES AND RESEARCH UNIVERSITY
(A State University of GNCT of Delhi)
DIPSAR Campus, Mehrauli- Badarpur Road, Opposite Sainik Farm, Gate No.01, Pushp Vihar, Sect-III, New Delhi-110017

ROLLING ADVERTISEMENT FOR GUEST/ VISITING AND CONTRACTUAL FACULTY POSITIONS
Rolling Advertisement No. DPSRU/GF/2025/01

In continuation to the University Advertisements for engagement of guest/ visiting and contractual faculty (Advt. No. DPSRU/GF/2024/01-04), this advertisement is being issued to bring more candidates including the faculties who are already working in the above capacity in this University. Hence, all interested and eligible candidates who have not applied earlier may forward their applications by 5:00 PM of 03.03.2025. The application form, eligibility condition and other term & conditions will remain same as mentioned in the earlier advertisements.

In addition to the Subjects mentioned earlier, the Contractual Faculty for Sports Science, B.Sc. (Hons.) Biomedical Sciences and Medical & Non- Medical Visiting Faculty are also required. Candidates are advised to visit: ww.dpsru.edu.in for details.

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0587/24-25 **Registrar**

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ
(An Organisation of the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030

Empanellment of National Resource Persons for DAY- NRLM

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is the country's apex organization for undertaking Training and Research on various aspects of Rural Development. National Rural Livelihood Mission Resource Cell (NRLM RC) of NIRDPR needs the services of dynamic and experienced persons to be empanelled as National Resource Persons for the following themes under DAY-NRLM to provide technical services:

1. Institutional Building & Capacity Building, Model Cluster Level Federation
2. Social Inclusion & Social Development (Gender, FNHW, Social Inclusion)
3. Financial Inclusion (SHG Bank Linkage, Digital Finance, Enterprise Finance, Financial Literacy, Social Security & Insurance
4. Thematic Studies, Monitoring & Evaluation
5. Management Information System (SHG/Federation Transaction System application implementation)

Applications are invited from eligible professionals to support training and capacity building needs of various State Rural Livelihood Missions across the country on the aforesaid specializations.

For further details, please visit : **http://career.nirdpr.in/**
Last date for submission of online application is **12.03.2025**

Advt.No.06/2025
File No: NRLMRC/HR/NRPS/ Empanellment2017-18
Comp. No. 6774

Sd/-
Assistant Director Administration (Section-I)

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Ltd.
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302005 (Raj.)
Phone No: 0141-2228066 ,2228064, Website: http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ2011SGC035067, E-mail : edprmsc@rajasthan.gov.in

Ref. No. :- F.02(190)/RMSCL/Proc./Sanitary Napkins(Non Drug)/NIB-03/2025/122 **Dated :- 18/02/2025**

Corrigendum -I in NIB-03/2025

In Reference to NIB No. F.02(190)/RMSCL/Proc./Sanitary Napkins (Non Drug)/NIB-03/2025/83 Dated: 30.01.2025 UBN No. MSC2425GLRC0067 Corrigendum-I is issued for inclusion in the bid document. All details may be seen on **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** **https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** & **https://www.rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in.**

Raj.Samwad/C/24/11889 **Executive Director (Proc.)**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDHYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED

NOTICE INVITING BIDS NO. 20 & 21 (2024-25)

RVPN invites competitive BIDS for following Civil works from experienced, reputed contractors registered in appropriate class with RRVPNL & A or AA class in Central/ State Government Department and their undertakings and registered in GST department. The Tender/bid shall only be submitted through online tendering system of http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in The interested bidders shall have to be enrolled/ registered with portal of http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for participating in the bidding process. S. No. 01 to 23 (NIB No. 20 (2024-25) & 01 to 17 (NIB No. 21 (2024-25).

UBN No. : (VPN2425WSOB02956) to (VPN2425WSOB02961), (VPN2425WSOB02963) to (VPN2425WSOB02964), (VPN2425WSOB02967) to (VPN2425WSOB02979), (VPN2425WSOB02983) to (VPN2425WSOB03001).

Superintending Engineer
Raj.Samwad/C/24/11864 **RRVPN/TR-6623/2025** **(Civil), Jodhpur**

INDRAPRASTHA INSTITUTE of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DELHI
(A State University established by Govt. of NCT Delhi)
विकसित भारत अभियान 1947 TO 2047

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-D), Okhla, New Delhi, a State University established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, invites tenders for the following work/ service contracts for its Campus:

Tender No	Description
06/2025	Tender for External paint Repair and Maintenance works at IIITD Campus
07/2025	Tender for Running, Maintenance, Operation & functioning of Swimming Pool of IIITD Campus

The complete document and Terms and Conditions may be downloaded from the website of IIIT Delhi at https://www.iiitd.ac.in/tenders.

MAHAGENCO
Maharashtra State Power Generation Co. Ltd.

E-TENDER NOTICE E-Mail:-cgmcivil1@mahagenco.in Tel. No: 022-2407 7441 to 46

Tender Specification: CE(C)-I/KRD/3x660MW/Ozonisation/Tech/T-647/RFx 3000054985/2024-25	
NAME OF WORK: Civil works related to Design, Engineering, Supply & Construction for enhancement of Ozonisation plant capacity from 45 Kg/hr to 90 Kg/hr (i.e. 30 Kg/hr for each 660 MW unit) for circulating cooling water system at 3x660 MW Koradi Project.	
Issue Date: 21.02.2025 to 12.03.2025 Up to 18:00 Hrs.	**Time Limit:** 08 (Eight Months) (Including Monsoon Period)
Tender Fee: ₹5900- (Rs. Five Thousand Nine Hundred only) (Including GST 18%)	**Last Date of Submission :-** 13.03.2025 Upto 13:00 Hrs.
Estimated Cost: ₹5,32,04,582/-	**E.M.D.:** ₹5,32,046/- (By E-Payment only)
Contact Person- Chief Engineer(Civil)-I, MSPGCL, Estrella Batteries Expn Bldg., Plot No.1, Dharavi Rd., Matunga, Mumbai-19. (Tel. No. 022-24034148)	

For further details visit our Website: **https://eprocurement.mahagenco.in**
Agencies are requested to register themselves for future E – Tenders.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identification Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in, (Contact number 9646117606)

Tender Inquiry No. 38/MM-I/TGP-134 (XI)/O&M/GHTP/2025

Dy. Chief Engineer, Mechanical Mtc. Circle-I/GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-tender for the work of Routine, Preventive, Breakdown Maintenance and overhauling jobs (Mechanical jobs) of Boiler Feed pumps, Condensate Extraction Pumps, CW Pumps, Vacuum Pumps, Turbine Aux Cooling Water Pumps, BACW Pumps, Boiler fill Pumps, Hotwell Make Up Pumps, Stator Water Make Up Pumps, ACW Pumps, SGDMCW Pumps, TGDMCW Pumps, TG Cycle Make Up Pumps etc. of 2X210MW and 2X250MW Units of Guru Hargobind Thermal Plant (GHTP), Lehra Mohabbat monthly lump sum basis for period of one year at GHTP. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 19-02-2025 from 16:00 hrs onwards.

Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GHTP-14/25, DPR/Pb.:76155/12/3918/2023/41772

Notice of Lodgement of Petition of Appeal to the Respondent
(S.C.R., Order XXII Rule 11)
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
(Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction)
CRIMINAL APPEAL No. 1113 OF 2017

(Appeal by Special Leave granted by this Court's Order dated the **07th July, 2017** in Petition for **SLP(Crl) No. 5046** of **2017** from the Judgment and Order dated the **16th November, 2016** of the **High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan at Jodhpur,,** RAJASTHAN in **DBCRA** No. 411 of **2005**)

THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN ... **Appellant(s)**
VERSUS
SANWAL RAM ... **Respondent(s)**

To,
1 SANWAL RAM S/O MANGLA RAM, R/O VILLAGE AJEET, TEHSIL-SIVANA DISTRICT- BARMER, RAJASTHAN
PID: 29163/2025 FOR R[1] IN CRL.A. NO.1113/2017 (SEC II)

TAKE NOTICE that the Appellant above-named has on the **09th May, 2017,** filed in the Registry of Supreme Court Petition for **SLP(Crl) No. 5046** of **2017** from Judgment and Order of the High Court above mentioned and pursuant of this Court's order dated **07th July, 2017** granting Special Leave to Appeal the case has been registered in this Court as **CRIMINAL APPEAL** No. **1113** of **2017.**

AND WHEREAS, the service of Notice of Lodgment of Petition could not be effected on unserved Respondent and the matter above-mentioned was listed before **Hon'ble Court (In Chambers)** on **10th January, 2025,** When the following order was passed:-

" I.A. No. 281321 of 2024 seeking substituted service by way of newspaper publication on the sole respondent is allowed. "

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 8, Order XX, Supreme Court Rule 2013, the Appeal above-mentioned will be heard on the paper books for the hearing of the Petition of Appeal and the paper books of the Court below (in English) if available plus additional documents to be filed by the parties, if the paper books of the Court below are not available.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO YOU that if you wish to contest the appeal you may enter appearance within thirty days of the receipt of this Notice before this Court either in person or by an advocate-on-record of this Court appointed by you in this behalf and take such part in the proceedings as you may advised.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT in default of your appearance the matter will be decided and determined in your absence.

Dated: **3rd February, 2025**

Sd/-
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(Construction Organisation)

Tender Notice No. 20-CECNMS-2025-E467796-II DATED 12-02-2025
Tender Notice No. 21-CECNMS-2025-E-519732 DATED 13-02-2025
Tender Notice No. 22-CECNMS-2025-E-527148 DATED 17-02-2025
Tender Notice No. 23-CECNMS-2025-E-519131 DATED 14-02-2025

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai 600 008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The tenderers/Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online tenders will be accepted.

NAME OF THE WORK

Proposed construction of Sub-sectioning and Parallel Post (SSP) control rooms at Periyakottai (PYK), Arantangi (ATQ), Ayingudi (AYI), Peravurani (PVI), Adirampattinam (AMM), Mutupet (MTT) and Tillaivilagam (TAM) (seven stations), Traction Sub-station (TSS) control room and OHE maintenance depot at Pattukkottai (PKT) station, RCC retaining wall and earth filling at Tiruturaipundi Jn. & Pattukkottai stations and providing Height Gauge at Level Crossing locations between Tiruthuraipundi and Pattukkottai Stations in Tiruturaipundi - Karaikudi section (excluding Tiruturaipundi station) Tiruchchirappalli Division of Southern Railway.

Chennai Beach station Proposed MSB yard Remodelling - (1) Proposed Dismantling of platforms, Existing RRI cabin, Existing S&T hut building, existing Running room, Concourse area and existing SM Duty room at Platform No.1 & 2. (2) Proposed extension of Platforms, Proposed construction of Platform No. 9 & 10 and provision of Passenger amenities works. (3) Proposed construction of on duty SM room and crew change point at Platform No.1 & 2. (4) Modification of FOB Gangway and Stairway. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)

New Railway Hospital at Perambur Proposed Facade, Provision of false ceiling in corridors, Entrance arch, Parking area and other allied works inside newly constructed New Railway Hospital Complex.

Proposed Construction of New Modified Goods/ New Modified Goods High Speed Carrier Pit line shed & Roads at carriage pit line inside GOC workshop. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)

Cash Value (Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees)	Period of Completion (Months)	Closing Date @ 15.30 Hrs
86310158.35	581600.00	9	07-03-2025
260546812.77	1452700.00	12	07-03-2025
80637618.3	553200.00	9	11-03-2025
138085223.38	840400.00	12	11-03-2025

For further details, please refer to web site portal www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

Chief Engineer (Construction), Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.
for and On behalf of President of India.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Sr. DEE/TRD/Agra for & on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on-line only (e-Tendering) for the following work:

Tender No. : AGCTRDT202505	**Period of completion :**Twelve months
Approximate Cost: ₹ 3880473	**Earnest Money :**₹ 77600/-
Name of work : Modification in OHE due to raising of maximum speed from 100 to 110 KmPH in MTJ - AWR section of Agra Division	

1. For full details & submission of the bid please see the Indian Railway website **www.ireps.gov.in**. **2.** Tender can only be submitted through web portal **"www.ireps.gov.in"** up to 11.30 Hrs. on date 07.03.2025 **310/25(DG)**

North central railways @CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Project - East),
Nethaji Subhash Chandra Bose Building (PUB),
21st Floor, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

No: EE/P-E/Tend-08/Cor-2/2024-25 **Date: 17-02-2025**

CORRIGENDUM-2

Due to technical reason this undersign office is unable to Upload the Tender Documents in E-Portal hence with respect to the Tender Notification No: **EE/P-E/Tend/08/2024-25** issued on Dated: **16-01-2025** the Revised Tender Schedule Dates for the work of this notification is as shown below.

1) Tender documents may be download **from 18-02-2025. 2)** Last Date for Uploading the Filled Proposals is **01-03-2025 upto 16.00 Hours. 3)** Date of Opening of Technical Proposal is **03-03-2025 at 16.30 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Financial Proposal is **After Approval of Technical Bid from Competent Authority.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Project - East), BBMP.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer, (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore-560009.

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through KPP Portal only) (2nd Call)

IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-2/DCE(M)-2/TA(N)/12197/2024-25
Date: 17.02.2025

BWSSB, invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender system from eligible contractors for providing & laying of 450mm dia DI water line from Bangalore NH44 KM 535 lane of signature Business park NHAI coming under yelahanka old town service station of AEE N21 sub division.

Amount put to tender: **Rs. 108.36 lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 2.00 lakhs.** The last date and time for receipt of tender document is **05.03.2025 upto 4.00 pm.** The bids will be opened on **06.03.2025 after 5.00 pm.** For further details visit KPP Portal website: **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/5130/2024-25

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (North)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Notice No. 25_28 HWaste **Date 13.02.2025**

E-Tender Notice

Tender No.: 25-28 HWaste	
Description of Work: Disposal of Hazardous Waste Items generated by RSK for a period of 03 Years.	
Estimated Cost (In Rs.): Rs.1,31,83,951.93/-(Rs. One crore thirty one lakh Eighty three thousand Nine Hundred fifty one and ninty three paisa only)	
Earnest Money (In Rs.): Rs. 215900.00 only (Rs. Two lakh fifteen thousand nine hundred only)	
Completion Period: 36 Months from the date of commenceme nt of work. **1.** E-Tender will be closed at **15:00 Hrs** on **10.03.2025.** E-Tender Notice is also available on Indian Railway E- Tender website www.ireps.gov.in. **2.** For detailed information please visit Indian Railway E-Tender website **www.ireps.gov.in. 3.** Eligibility criteria:- The experience of similar work etc as define and shown in the condition of tender for minimum eligibility criteria and other conditions shall be made available in tender documents and on Indian Railway E-Tendering website **www.ireps.gov.in. 4.** Tenderers using the tender document downloaded from the website should watch the website for the corrigendum /addendum to the NIT / E-Tender document, if any, as there will not be any separate communication for the same. **Note:-** Tenderer shall submit documentary proof in regard to fulfilling all the above eligibility criteria along with their offer which has been completed by them before the publication date of NIT. The offers of tenderer who do not meet the eligibility criteria as mentioned above shall not be considered. **313/25 (D)**	

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPRONCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No. 03/2025/RS/JHS

For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Rolling Stock) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tenders through online (**E-Tendering**) for the following work:

Tender No : JHS-RS-WC-T3-2024-25-RT3	
Description : Certification of Energy Management System (EnMS) ISO 50001:2018 and Re-certification of integrated Management System (IMS) consisting of ISO-9001:2015; ISO:14001:2015 & ISO:45001:2018 to Electric Loco Shed, North Central Railway, Jhansi for a period of 03 years.	
Tender value : Rs. 123416.00	**Earnest money : Rs.** 2500.00
Completion period from the date of issue of LOA. : 32 Months	
Tender No : JHS-RS-WC-T21-2024-25	
Description : Retrofitment of air conditioning in cabs with trough and provision of thermal insulation of cabs in Electric locomotives.	
Tender value : Rs. 65280000.00	**Earnest money : Rs.** 476400.00
Tender No : JHS-RS-WC-T28-2024-25	
Description : Stripping & cleaning of pneumatic valves of locomotives, cleaning & painting of under frame pneumatic pipeline of locomotives and welding work in pneumatic pipeline including associated item/equipment damaged due to CRO/rusting.	
Tender value : Rs. 2700580.00	**Earnest money : Rs.** 54000.00
Tender No : JHS-RS-WC-T29-2024-25	
Description : Repair/rehabilitation of axle box housing of WAG-5 Electric Locomotives.	
Tender value : Rs. 1356705.00	**Earnest money : Rs.** 27100.00
Closing date of tender : 10.03.2025	
Completion period from the date of issue of LOA. : 24 Months	
Tenderer will submit the tender online upto 10.03.2025 (15:00 Hrs.). Complete details & for submission of tenders can be seen in Indian Railway website **http://www.ireps.gov.in.** **309/25(AS)**	

North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPRONCR

UJVN Limited
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No.U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website:www.ujvnl.com

पत्र संः 115 दिनांकः 17 / 02 / 2025

Tender Notice

Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G) Kulhal Power Station, Kulhal, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :

Tender No. 20/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2024-25: "General cleaning work at Kulhal Power House for one year"

Tender No. 21/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2024-25: "Gardening, Grass cutting and Jungle cleaning of Power House & Switchyard (132KV) area & other associated work at Kulhal Power Station"

Tender No. 22/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2024-25: "Trash Rack, Intake Area Cleaning & other associated work at Kulhal Power House for one year"

Tender No. 23/UJVNL/EE (M&G)/KPS/2024-25 "Annual Contract for Operation and cleaning work of 33/11 KV Kulhal Substation, Kulhal"

Tender No. 24/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2024-25: Annual Maintenance Contract of 33kV and 11 kV lines from 33/11kV Substation Kulhal"

Estimated cost: Rs. 10,61,872/-, Rs. 14,26,727/- Rs. 9,98,419/- Rs. 18,70,513/- & Rs. 14,06,673/- GST Extra

Date of availability of bid document on website: 22/02/2025 11:00 Hrs
Last date for submission of tender: 17/03/2025 15:00 Hrs

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website **"www.ujvnl.com"**

Executive Engineer (M&G) Kulhal

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF ROAD TRANSPORT

Post Box No 1897, Bhosari, Pune-26.
Ph: 020-67345300 Fax: 020-67345407

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

CIRT, Pune invites sealed Request for Proposal (RFP) for Hiring of Consulting Agency/Firm for Establishment of Advanced Automotive Testing and Development Centre (AATDC) at CIRT, Pune.

RFP No: CIRT-AATDC/2024-25

Last Date of Submission: 19/03/2025, 17:00 hrs.at CIRT, Pune

Interested Agency/Firm are requested to visit our website **https://www.cirtindia.com** to download the RFP Document

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स्वास्थ्य विभाग

बिहार सरकार

(प्रेस विज्ञप्ति)

सीनियर रेजिडेन्ट के तीन वर्षीय टेन्योर पदों पर चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पतालों में योगदान करने के संबंध में।

बिहार संयुक्त प्रवेश प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा पर्षद, पटना द्वारा अनुशंसित चिकित्सकों को विभागीय आदेश संख्या–92(17)–96(17) (तक), दिनांक–24.01.2025 द्वारा राज्य के चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पतालों के 05 विभागों में सीनियर रेजिडेन्ट के तीन वर्षीय टेन्योर पदों पर नियुक्त एवं पदस्थापित किया गया है।

2. सम्यक् विचारोपरान्त चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पतालों में योगदान करने की तिथि को, प्रेस विज्ञप्ति प्रकाशन की तिथि से अगले 15 (पन्द्रह) दिनों तक अंतिम रूप से विस्तारित किया जाता है।

(रेणु कुमारी)
विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी

PR- 019585 (Health) 2024-25

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

A-1088

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
'e' Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 18/2024-25

Procurement officer	Bid Identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) E.M.D.	Cost of Bid documents (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding From	Bid documents available online for bidding To	Date of opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACE, CIC, Bhubaneswar	NGR-08/ 2024-25	Construction of CC Lining of Left Distributary of Kuanria Irrigation Project (from RD. 00 Km to 10.00 Km)	830.21	830300/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" & "Special" Class	21.02.2025 At 10.00 Hours	07.03.2025 At 17.00 Hours	10.03.2025 At 11.00 Hours	18 (Eighteen Calendar Month)

e-mail ID: **secic_dowr@yahoo.com**
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website **www.tenderodisha.gov.in**

Additional Chief Engineer
Central Irrigation Circle
OIPR-32160/11/0022/24-25

CAD-2630

ODISHA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF ODISHA UNDERTAKING)
PANTHANIVAS (OLD BLOCK): LEWIS ROAD: BHUBANESWAR-14
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)

Letter No. 3027 Date: 17.02.2025

NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS (NIFB)
E-Procurement Notice No. BP-I/16/2024-25 dt.17.02.2025.

1. Nature of Work : Repair and Renovation of Panthanivas, Chandipur, Chandaneswar and Keonjhar Dists.
2. Total No. of Works : 03 Nos.
3. Value of Works : Rs. 78.48 lakhs to 117.73 lakhs
4. Bid Security : As per NIT
5. Class of Contractor : As Per NIT
6. Period of Completion: 09(Nine) Months.
7. Other details as follows :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Bid online From	Availability of Bid online To	Date, Time & Place of Opening of Tender
Superintending Engineer, OTDC Ltd., Bhubaneswar.	BP-I/16/2024-25 dt.17.02.2025	From 28.02.2025	To 17.03.2025	11.30 Hours of dt.18.03.2025 in the office of the Superintending Engineer, OTDC Ltd, Bhubaneswar.

Further details can be seen from the Govt. Website ***www.etenderodisha.gov.in***

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
O.T.D.C. Ltd., BBSR.
OIPR-37002/11/0047/24-25

आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण, आगरा
जयपुर हाऊस, आगरा

पत्रांक: 148D/EE/-I 125 दिनांक : 17/02/2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (R.F.P.)

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	बिड प्रारम्भ की तिथि	प्री–बिड मीटिंग की तिथि	प्री–बिड क्वेरी अपलोड करने की अन्तिम तिथि	बिड की अन्तिम तिथि
1	Selection of consultant for preparation of Detailed Layout Plan, Detailed Project Report of all Project components of Raipur-Rehan Kalan Township in Agra.	19.02.2025	28.02.2025 (अपरान्ह 02 बजे से 03 बजे तक)	03.03.2025	19.03.2025

कार्य के सम्बन्ध में किसी भी जानकारी के लिए सम्पर्क करें। मुख्य अभियन्ता, आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण, मोबाईल नम्बर 9918001523 ई–मेल ceadaagra12@gmail.com पर सम्पर्क करें।

उपाध्यक्ष, आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण को बिना कोई कारण बताये उक्त प्रक्रिया को निरस्त करने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा। विस्तृत विवरण एवं अन्य नियम व शर्तें वेबसाइट https://www.etender.up.nic.in से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य अभियन्ता
आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण
आगरा

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग
15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना–800001

आवश्यक सूचना

उपभोक्ता संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2019 तथा उपभोक्ता संरक्षण (राज्य आयोग और जिला आयोग के अध्यक्ष और सदस्यों की नियुक्ति के लिए अर्हता, भर्ती की पद्धति, नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया कार्यकाल पद से त्यागपत्र और हटाना) नियम, 2020 एवं संशोधित नियम, 2023 के प्रावधानों के आलोक में खाद्य एवं उपभोक्ता संरक्षण विभाग, बिहार के अन्तर्गत विज्ञापन संख्या – 01/2025 राज्य उपभोक्ता विवाद प्रतितोष आयोग, बिहार, पटना में न्यायिक सदस्य के रिक्त – 01 पद (महिला हेतु आरक्षित), विज्ञापन संख्या – 02/2025 जिला उपभोक्ता विवाद प्रतितोष आयोग, बिहार में अध्यक्ष के रिक्त – 18 पद एवं विज्ञापन संख्या – 03/2025 जिला उपभोक्ता विवाद प्रतितोष आयोग, बिहार में सदस्य के रिक्त – 38 पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु सुयोग्य भारतीय उम्मीदवारों से ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जाते है।

2. ऑनलाइन आवेदन पत्र भरने से संबंधित तिथि एवं अन्य निर्देश निम्नांकित हैं:–

1.	ऑनलाइन आवेदन प्रारम्भ करने की तिथि	**19.02.2025**
2.	ऑनलाइन आवेदन भरने की अंतिम तिथि	**06.03.2025**

3. उपर्युक्त विज्ञापन के संबंध में विस्तृत सूचना / विवरणी / जानकारी एवं ऑनलाइन आवेदन भरने हेतु निर्देश आयोग के वेबसाईट **www.bpsc.bihar.gov.in** पर प्रदर्शित है।

4. अभ्यर्थी ऑनलाइन आवेदन भरने की प्रक्रिया प्रारम्भ करने के पूर्व वेबसाईट पर प्रदर्शित विस्तृत विज्ञापन एवं ऑनलाइन आवेदन भरने हेतु आवश्यक एवं विस्तृत निर्देश का भली–भाँति अध्ययन कर लेंगे।

स्वा:/–
परीक्षा नियंत्रक,
बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना

C-1672

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
P.H. DIVISION, BALASORE
Phone: 9438660004, e-mail-eephbls@gmail.com

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement (Online Mode)

Invitation for Bids (IFB) dt.12.02.2025

The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites Percentage Rate bids in Double Bid system in ONLINE mode only.

Sl. No	Name of the Work	Bid-Identification No.	Value of Work (Rs.Lakh)	Period of Completion	Availability of bid documents for online bidding From	Availability of bid documents for online bidding To	Last date and time of seeking clarification	Date & Time of opening of Price bid
1	Improvement of Source for water supply to ward no.07 Balagopalpur, 09 Madhipur, 10 Samaraipur, 12 Sana Purusttampur of Remuna N.A.C	SEPHBLS-36 dt.12.02.2025	162.37	**06 (Six) calendar month**	11:00 Hrs. of dt.20.02.2025	17:00 Hrs.of dt.07.03.2025	17:00 Hrs.of dt.03.03.2025	11:00 Hrs.of dt.08.03.2025

The bidders shall have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **http://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Name and Address of the officer inviting bid :- The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Division, Balasore, At-Samalpur, Post-Balia, Dist-Balasore, Pin-756056, Odisha, Phone: 9438660004

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
P.H. Division, Balasore.
OIPR-13053/11/0023/24-25

B-1009

Mail ID: sepwdsbp@rediffmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
NORTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE SAMBALPUR
e - Procurement
BID IDENTIFICATION No CCENC (R AND B) /19/2024-25
No. 547 Dtd. 13.02.2025

1. The **Chief Construction Engineer, Northern (R&B) Circle, Sambalpur** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **Percentage Rate** bids in double cover system **in ONLINE MODE** for the construction of **ROAD Works and Bridge work** as detailed in the DTCN from the eligible class of contractors.
2. No of works= **02 (TWO) (ROAD Works AND Bridge Work)**
3. Tender Cost: Rs. **10,000/-**
4. Class of contractor: **"A" Class and "Special" Class**
5. Date & Time of available in website & receipt of Bids From **20.02.2025** to **17.00 Hours** of **06.03.2025.**
6. Date of opening of Technical Bid **07.03.2025** at **11.00 Hours.**
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in.**
8. Any corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Northern (R&B) Circle, Sambalpur
OIPR-34035/11/0021/24-25

आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण, आगरा
जयपुर हाउस, आगरा।

पत्रांक 147/डी/ई.ई.–1/2024–25 दि0 17/02/2025

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (R.F.P.)

क्र सं	परियोजना का नाम	परियोजना की अनुमानित लागत (रु० लाख में)	बिड प्रारम्भ की तिथि	प्री–बिड मीटिंग की तिथि	प्री–बिड क्वेरी अपलोड करने की अन्तिम तिथि	बिड की अन्तिम तिथि
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	Selection of Contractor for Integrated Infrastructure Development Works, in Atal Puram Township at Gwalior Road, Agra in the State of (UP) on EPC basis.	41315.40	21/02/2025	06/03/2025 (प्रातः 11.30 बजे से)	10/03/2025 (5.00 PM तक)	24/03/2025 (अपरान्ह 5.00 बजे तक)

कार्य के सम्बन्ध में किसी भी जानकारी के लिए सम्पर्क करें। मुख्य अभियन्ता, आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण, मोबाइल नं0–9711309375 ई–मेल ceadaagra12@gmail.com पर सम्पर्क करें। उपाध्यक्ष, आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण को बिना कोई कारण बतायें उक्त प्रक्रिया को निरस्त करने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा। विस्तृत विवरण एवं अन्य नियम व शर्तें वेबसाइट https://www.etender.up.nic.in के साथ–साथ भारत सरकार की टेन्डरसाइट https://www.etenders.gov.in से डाउनलोड की सकती है।

मुख्य अभियन्ता
आगरा विकास प्राधिकरण,
आगरा।

REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (RERA)
National Capital Territory of Delhi
2nd Floor, Shivaji Stadium Annexe Building, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Marg, New Delhi - 110001.

F.No.HR/42/12/Re-engagement/Hiring/RERA-2024/927 Date: 17.02.2025

(Text of Advertisement)

RERA for NCT of Delhi proposes to engage retired Govt. employees as Section Officers & ASO and Law Graduates as SLA/LA/JLA purely on short-term contract basis in different categories. The last date for submission of online application is **10.03.2025 at 23.59 hrs**. through email. Details of advertisement can be seen at RERA, NCT of Delhi's website **www.rera.delhi.gov.in**

Sd/-
Deputy Secretary (Admn)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0586/24-25

CAD-2620

ODISHA POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha undertaking)
AT-IB THERMAL POWER STATION, PO: BANAHARPALI, DIST: JHARSUGUDA, ODISHA-768234
Phone no: (Land Line No. 06645-289232/221/355/356/245)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

OPGC invites sealed bids from bona fide and financially sound Registered Agencies /Firms /Companies for execution of the following Works & Supplies for its Thermal Power Plant at Banharpali.

Works Tenders: NIT No. ITPS/CC-22/2024-25/15, Date: 19/02/2025

SL.No	DESCRIPTION	BID SALE DATE
1	Hiring of trailor & hydra for U#3 AOH	25.02.25 to 11.03.25
2	Laying of drinking water pipeline to Bhaludol and Sargipali village under Kumarbandh GP.	26.02.25 to 12.03.25
3	Hiring of Ash Water Recovery Pump with accessories & Manpower	25.02.25 to 11.03.25
4	Condenser tube & DMCW PHE cleaning during AOH U#3, OPGC II	25.02.25 to 11.03.25
5	Refurbishment Boiler, OPGC II of Coal Nozzle Compartment Assembly and Coal nozzle TIP (SS-310) for AOH of Unit 3	25.02.25 to 11.03.25
6	Refractory Application Services during AOH of Unit #3, OPGC-II	25.02.25 to 11.03.25
7	Hiring of manpower for C&I maintenance activities during U#3 AOH	25.02.25 to 17.03.25
8	Servicing of HT & LT Switchgear during upcoming U#3 AOH FY-2025-26	25.02.25 to 17.03.25
9	Servicing of Transformer Oil filtration & Maintenance job during U#3 AOH FY-2025-26	25.02.25 to 17.03.25
10	Painting of Ash pipe bridge structure near Saharipara of U # 3 & 4.	25.02.25 to 10.03.25
11	Painting work of BCN-11A/B Conveyor structure steel.	27.02.25 to 13.03.25
12	NDT Services during Annual Overhauling of Unit#3 & FY 2025-26	27.02.25 to 13.03.25
13	Construction of new proposed main gate for Unit 3&4 at ITPS	27.02.25 to 13.03.25
14	Construction of balance kota stone work & handrail work in different buildings of U# 3 &4	01.03.25 to 15.03.25
15	Proposed for modification of Telenpali Gate Complex at ITPS	28.02.25 to 14.03.25

Supply Tenders:			BID SALE DATE
1	Procurement of HCSD Pump Suction Strainer Assembly & Elements	ITPS/PUR/24-25/70	19.02.25 to 04.03.25
2	Structural Steel Items	ITPS/PUR/24-25/86	20.02.25 to 05.03.25
3	Procurement of Square Port Knife Gate Valve	ITPS/PUR/24-25/91	20.02.25 to 05.03.25
4	S-Pannel Sealing Arrangement	ITPS/Pur./24-25/87	20.02.25 to 13.03.25
5	Insulation Material for Boiler	ITPS/Pur./24-25/88	20.02.25 to 13.03.25
6	Supply of Self-aligning carrying and return idler frames.	ITPS/Pur./24-25/89	24.02.25 To 10.03.25
7	Supply of Forged hammers for ring granulator	ITPS/Pur./24-25/90	24.02.25 To 10.03.25

The detailed NITs along with Terms and Conditions are available for download at OPGC website at **www.opgc.co.in.** Addenda/Corrigenda/ Extensions, if any, will be notified on the OPGC website only and will not be published in any other media. Interested companies or entities may visit OPGC website for the tender timeline and other details.

Sd/-
Manoj Pradhan
DGM, Contracts
OIPR-04067/11/0018/24-25

DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR RESEARCH & TRAINING INSTITUTE (BARTI), PUNE

(An Autonomous Institute of the Dept. of Social Justice and Special Assistance, Govt. of Maharashtra) Office: 28, Queens Garden, Camp, Pune-411001

TEL No. 020-26343600/263333330/26333339

Website: www.barti.in E-mail: - dg@barti.in

BARTI/Computer Dept/Digital School/2024-25/ Date: 12/02/2025

E-Tender Notice

Request for Proposal (in Two Bid system - Technical Bid & Commercial Bid) are invited for Supply & Installation of Interactive Panel, Digital content Software, Logitech web Camera, UPS 1 KW at Yerwada Public School, BARTI, PUNE Interested bidder having adequate resources and experience can submit their Technical Bid & Commercial Bid online on website https://mahatenders.gov.in

Name of the Service	Tender Fee (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs)
Supply & Installation of Interactive Panel, Digital content Software, Logitech web Camera, UPS 1 KW at Yerwada Public School, BARTI, Pune.	Rs. 5,500/-	Rs. 90,000/-

1. The Bid document available on website https://mahatenders.gov.in
2. The **Tender fees of Rs. 5,500/-** is required to be deposited online.
3. The **EMD of Rs. 90,000/-** is required to be deposited online.
4. Interested bidders shall submit their bid on or before **04/03/2025, 12:00 hrs.**
5. Right to reject any part of the bid or all the bids is reserved by Director General, BARTI, Pune.

Sd/-
(Sunil Ware, IRAS)
Director General,
BARTI, Pune

DGIPR 2024-25/6521

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.–33004/99 REGD.NO.D.L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.–डी.एल.–अ.- 24012025-260452
CG-DL-E-24012025-260452
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप–खण्ड (ii)
PART II – Section 3 – Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 418] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, जनवरी 23, 2025/माघ 3, 1946
No. 418] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025/MAGHA 3, 1946

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the Date 23.01.2025

S.O. 422(E).– In exercise of powers conferred sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/4-laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of Haridwar Ring Road in the stretch of land from Km. 0.000 to Km. 48.880 in the village (s) namely Bhagtanpur Abidpur Urf Ibrahimpur, Atamalpur Baungla, Sarai, Devpur Mustkam & Ruhalki Kishanpur in the district of HARIDWAR in the state of UTTARAKHAND.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely Special Land Acquisition Officer, Haridwar in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector any opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section of 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures Haridwar Ring Road in the stretch of land from Km. 0.000 to Km. 48.880 in the district of HARIDWAR in the state of UTTARAKHAND

[F.No. NHAI/PIU-RRK/55001/Haridwar Ring Road (LA)/2020/3A]

District: Haridwar
https://egazette.gov.in
Publication Date: 23th January, 2025
https://egazette.gov.in/WriteReadData/2025/260452.pdf
https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/auth/revamp/showfile.cshtml?TAB=bGFfVGhyZWVBX2ZpbGVz&fk=bm90aWZpY2F0aW9uX2Ik&fkid=NzA3MTk=&EncHid=1436587981

रजिस्ट्री सं० डी०एल० 33004/99 REGD.NO.D.L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-15022025-261066
CG-DL-E-15022025-261066
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग-II खण्ड-3 उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART-II Section-3 Sub-Section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 803] नई दिल्ली, शुक्रवार, फरवरी 14, 2025/माघ 25, 1946
No. 803] NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025/MAGHA 25, 1946

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 14th February, 2025

S.O. 807(E).—In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.,), maintenance, management and operation of Ring Road in the stretch of land from Km. 0.00 to Km. 19.200 in the district of BAREILLY in the state of UTTAR PRADESH, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section(1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, SLAO bareilly in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling Ring Road in the stretch of land from Km. 0.00 to Km. 19.200 in the district of BAREILLY in the state of UTTAR PRADESH.

https://egazette.gov.in/ [F. No. 19002/1/2018/PIU-Brly/3A]
Publication Date 14th February 2025 **ABHAY JAIN, Director**
https://egazette.gov.in/WriteReadData/2025/261066.pdf
https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/auth/revamp/showFileCA.cshtml?notification_id=71655&file_id=47800

SC seeks AG, SG assistance to 'devise something' to regulate online content

▶ Continued from P 1

As Allahbadia's counsel said the petitioner was getting life threats, the bench told him to approach the local police for protection but asked him not to take his lawyers along while joining the investigations. SC ordered him to deposit his passport with the investigating officer at Thane and barred him from travelling abroad without the apex court's prior permission.

Alarmed by the deteriorating standards of language and content in certain programmes broadcast on social media, the bench sought assistance of attorney general R Venkataramani and solicitor general Tushar Mehta during the next hearing in "devising something" to regulate "anything and everything" being aired on certain websites and internet channels in the name of right to freedom of speech and expression.

As Abhinav Chandrachud defended the controversial remarks by attempting to differentiate them from vulgarity or obscenity, Justices Kant and Singh asked, "If this (the controversial statement) is not obscenity, then what is that standard or parameter of obscenity? Do you have a licence to speak all kinds of vulgarity and exhibit your depraved mind anywhere and at any time?"

Allahbadia

Citing SC rulings in Arnab Goswami, Amish Devgan and Apoorva Arora cases, Chandrachud sought clubbing of the FIRs at one place and said Allahbadia's statement is not so grave as to invite criminal prosecution. He said SC has explained what is obscenity in the Apoorva Arora case and had said anything that invites disgust and revulsion may not necessarily invite criminal prosecution. Profanity is not obscenity, he said.

Justice Kant asked, "Does Apoorva judgment give you the licence to utter all kinds of nonsense? Look at the depraved and disgusting language you are using? The words you have chosen will put to shame every parent, daughters, sisters as well as brothers and the society as a whole. Everyone will feel ashamed by the pervert mind you and your henchmen have exhibited."

On Allahbadia being threatened on social platforms, the bench said, "If someone commits a wrong, he would be dealt with by law. People cannot decide who is right or wrong and punish a person by taking law into their own hands. We strongly disapprove such extension of threats to Allahbadia. But there is no actual threat to your life. As there are only three FIRs, you go and defend yourself."

"Only because a litigant can afford to approach the highest court straightaway, can he demand he does not want to go to so many places and that the investigations should be carried out at a place of his choice? If he is getting threats, the state will extend requisite protection," it said.

The bench said the Guwahati FIR is very different from the Thane FIR as the former is more comprehensive and also refers to "dirty, humiliating and insulting language used against the residents of Arunachal Pradesh. There are different ingredients mentioned in the two FIRs."

In a lighter vein, it said, "If you can try to get cheap publicity by using abusive language, then someone would try to get cheap popularity by threatening on social media. Every day it happens."

Chandrachud said the petitioner's mother is a doctor and that her patients are abusing her at the clinic. The bench said, "He should be ashamed of the mess he has created for himself and pain he has caused to his parents. We know from where he has copied. We know how he has copied from an Australian programme and how which actor's dialogue he has stolen. But these foreign programmes contain all kinds of precautions. But you do not care about putting out those precautions for the public."

India, Qatar reiterate stand on Gaza, agree to jointly fight terrorism

▶ Continued from P1

Modi and Al-Thani discussed the West Asia situation, reiterating their respective positions on the Gaza situation and emphasising the need for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve conflicts. Qatar is a key player in the Gaza ceasefire efforts, and as US President Donald Trump proposes a takeover of the strip, its foreign ministry said Tuesday Palestinians will decide the future of Gaza. India has also reiterated its support for the 'two-state solution' after Trump announced his plan to relocate Palestinians to Jordan and Egypt.

PM Modi and the Amir unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including cross-border terrorism, and agreed to jointly combat the menace through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms.

"They agreed to enhance cooperation in information and intelligence sharing, developing and exchanging experiences, best practices and technologies, capacity building and to strengthen cooperation in law enforcement, anti-money laundering, drug-trafficking, cybercrime and other transnational crimes," said the joint statement. Modi and the Amir spoke about promoting cooperation in cybersecurity, including prevention of use of cyberspace for terrorism and radicalisation.

The Amir had last year pardoned 85 Indian prisoners, including eight navy veterans who had been sentenced to death for espionage. Modi had personally thanked Al-Thani for their release during his visit to Doha last year but one of the men, Purnendu Tiwari, remains in Qatar because of a financial fraud case against him. A travel ban is said to have been imposed on him.

"Regarding the Navy official who is still over there, I would like to just say his matter remains sub judice in the local courts in Qatar," said MEA secretary Arun Chatterjee. The official said that the PM appreciated the work that Amir has done for the protection and welfare of Indian citizens. Qatar is home to 8,00,000 Indian nationals.

The official said while talks are under way for an India-GCC FTA, India and Qatar will look at the possibility of having an FTA. According to the statement, Qatar commended the steps taken by India in ensuring a conducive environment for foreign direct investment and foreign institutional investment, and expressed interest to explore investment opportunities in different sectors, including infrastructure and technology. "In this regard, the Qatar side announced a commitment to invest $10 billion in India," it said.

"India also recognised Qatar's growing role as a regional hub for goods and services, leveraging its strategic location, world-class infrastructure, and business-friendly policies," the statement said.

Survivor's grandma filed case in '19, rapist was their neighbour

▶ Continued from P 1

The court of additional district judge Vijendra Tripathi pronounced the judgment under sections 376 AB of the IPC (raping a woman under 12) and 6 (aggravated penetrative sexual assault) of the Posco Act, 2012.

The convict would need to spend an additional three months in jail if he failed to deposit the fine. The money will go to the survivor.

DCP (west) Vishwajeet Srivastava said the case was registered on May 6, 2019, by Kakori police, based on a complaint by the survivor's grandmother. The perpetrator, a neighbour, assaulted the girl in his house. "A watertight case was prepared, and the charge-sheet was filed on July 5, 2019," Srivastava said. Lucknow district govt counsel (criminal) Manoj Tripathi said the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, created classification of offences to enable courts to try minors in the age group 16-18 as adults for "heinous" crimes. "In this case, the court treated the rape of three-year-old minor as a heinous offence. In adherence to CM Yogi Adityanath's directive, we pursued the case to ensure that the accused got the maximum possible punishment," he said. The Juvenile Justice Board had constituted a committee under the Pocso Act to obtain a report certifying the suspect as being mentally mature and aware of the consequences of the crime. The panel submitted its report on Nov 11, 2019.

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, RISHIKESH-249203

F.No. 2025/01-17 Dated: 04.01.2025

VACANCY NOTICE

Online applications are invited for various group of A & B posts on deputation basis at AIIMS Rishikesh.

Detailed advertisement and other conditions are available on the website www.aiims rishikesh.edu.in.

Recruitment Cell
AIIMS, Rishikesh

आई.सी.एम.आर.- भोपाल स्मारक अस्पताल एवं अनुसंधान केन्द्र
ICMR - BHOPAL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL & RESEARCH CENTRE
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government. of India
रायसेन बायपास रोड, भोपाल–462038 (म.प्र.)| Raisen Bypass Road, Bhopal - 462038 (M.P.)
Phones:- +91 755 2742212-16, FAX:- +91 755 2748309, Email: recruitmentbmhrc@gmail.com, Website : www.bmhrc.ac.in

VACANCIES Date: 11/02/2025

S. No	Advertisement No.	Position	Consolidated emoluments	Last Date of Receipt of application
1.	166/BMHRC/ Bhopal/2025	Medical Officer on Contractual Basis	Rs.1,00,000/- per month.	20/02/2025
2.	167/BMHRC/ Bhopal/2025	Contractual Specialist Grade-III (Medicine)	Rs.1,20,000/- per month.	20/02/2025
3.	168/BMHRC/ Bhopal/2025	Young Professional-II (IT)	Rs.42,000/- per month	21/02/2025

The detailed advertisement, eligibility, prescribed format for applications, terms and conditions etc. are available on Institute website : www.bmhrc.ac.in . The Director, BMHRC, Bhopal reserve the right to increase or decrease the number of posts or make any amendment as cancellation or re-advertise the posts without assigning any reason thereof

Note: For Further details and any amendment/corrigendum please visit our above website.

Director
BMHRC, Bhopal

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./AUTH	OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	UHBVN	NOTICE INVITINGTENDER NO. 04/XEN/P-IV/MM/QHII/2125 DATED 21.01.2025	EXTENSION OF DUE DATE FOR LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION UPTO 24.02.2025 12:00 HRS. OPENING DATE 25.02.2025 AT 15:00 HRS.	uhbvn.org.in, etenders.hry.nic.in	9876106974 cemm@uhbvn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in RO 32411

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
Vijaypur, Jammu - 184120

EXTENSION NOTICE

(Employment Notification No. 02/2025)

Last date of filling up of application forms for the Senior Resident/ Senior Demonstrator posts advertised vide Employment Notification No. 02/2025 dated 10.01.2025 has been extended till **28th February, 2025 (Friday) 5:00 PM**. All terms & conditions of the said advertisement viz eligibility criteria, age, experience etc will remain same.

Extended last date of online application form	**28th February, 2025 (Friday)**

Online Application form, Vacancy details, general terms & conditions and prescribed Recruitment Rules etc. for the aforesaid posts are available at www.aiimsjammu.edu.in under 'Recruitment > Open Jobs'.

Sd/-
Registrar
On & behalf of ED &CEO
AIIMS, Jammu

NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT: ENFORCEMENT BRANCH
5/9 UNDERHILL ROAD DELHI - 54
PUBLIC NOTICE

The owners of the following vehicles which were impounded under Section 207 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and Delhi High Court Orders detained at the under mentioned Impounding Pits are hereby directed to contact respective In-Charge, Impounding Pit to get their vehicle released within 15 days from the publication of this public notice. They should produce vehicle Registration Card and Govt dues clearance report from Enforcement Branch of the Transport Department to get their 10 years old diesel and 15 years old petrol vehicles released from the Transport Department after paying parking charges. If they fail to secure timely release after compliance of the requirements indicated above, the Transport Department will dispose of these vehicles through e - auction to adjust Govt dues without any further notice:-

SKK PIT			DWARKA PIT			BURARI PIT		
SL No	Vehicle No	Category	SL No	Vehicle No	Category	Sl No	Vehicle No.	Category
1	DL1LF-2653	LGV	1	DL1LJ-0781	LGV	13	DL7SZ-7807	T/W
2	DL1LF-4760	LGV	2	DL1LH-5899	LGV	14	DL8SAJ-1794	T/W
3	DL1LF-2179	LGV	3	DL4CAH-1332	MDTS	15	DL6SX-2016	T/W
4	DL1LH-7633	LGV	4	DL1CD-2134	P/CAR	16	DL8SAG-9483	T/W
5	DL1LF-0501	LGV	5	DL13C-0340	P/CAR	17	DL8SAK-3558	T/W
6	DL1LJ-2048	LGV	6	DL2CAH-0703	P/CAR	18	DL8ST-1141	T/W
7	DL1LD-3495	LGV	7	DL3CAC-6035	P/CAR	19	DL7SAJ-5507	T/W
8	DNC-6883	PCAR	8	DL1RG-0641	TSR	20	DL5SW-0884	T/W
9	DL4CB-9751	P/CAR	9	DL4SAJ-4107	T/W	21	DL1SP-4171	T/W
10	DL4CD-7581	P/CAR	10	DL4SBF-3048	T/W	22	DL8SAJ-8043	T/W
11	DL8ST-6748	P/CAR	11	MH12DN-7771	T/W	23	UP16P-4722	T/W
12	HR03H-7216	T/W	12	DL45AY-4429	T/W	24	DL4SAU-2730	T/W
13	DL3SAW-2670	T/W	13	DL6SS-8995	T/W	25	DL1SQ-6043	T/W
14	DL7SAU-7034	T/W	14	HR51J-0425	T/W	26	DL8SAD-0270	T/W
15	DL8SAM-0783	T/W	15	DL9SN-6857	T/W	27	DL3SBF-5145	T/W
16	DL5SN-1732	T/W	16	DL6SX-9866	T/W	28	DL6SZ-6988	T/W
17	DL7SAP-1820	T/W	17	DL9SP-5792	T/W	29	UP15AC-2815	T/W
18	UP42C-3342	T/W	18	DL2SM-1515	T/W	30	DL5SW-7782	T/W
19	DL7SAY-7135	T/W	19	DL4SAZ-7047	T/W	31	DL4SBK-2582	T/W
20	DL6ST-9375	T/W	20	HR26AK-5934	T/W	32	DL13SA-4200	T/W
21	DL9ST-5359	T/W	21	DL9SK-5860	T/W	33	DL8SAG-0913	T/W
22	DL7SAU-1556	T/W	22	DL9SU-4566	T/W	34	DL8SAN-2011	T/W
23	DL7SAU-9263	T/W	23	DL4SBD-7955	T/W	35	DL3SAW-7310	T/W
24	DL7SAS-4597	T/W	24	DL9SL-0889	T/W	36	DL4SAL-2425	T/W
25	UP85M-9870	T/W		BURARI PIT		37	DL7SAZ-6425	T/W
26	DL4SBJ-3912	T/W	1	DL1K-0583	S/CAB	38	DL7SBA-2426	T/W
27	DL7SAV-3232	T/W	2	DL1LF-4115	LGV	39	DL7SAR-7665	T/W
28	DL4SAG-9257	T/W	3	DL1LP-8717	LGV	40	DL7SAN-3401	T/W
29	UP93R-3195	T/W	4	DL1LH-7905	LGV	41	DL1CL-3275	P/CAR
30	UP16H-5304	T/W	5	DL8SQ-8484	T/W	42	DL9CF-0099	MDTS
31	UP81H-3594	T/W	6	DL8SR-5259	M/C			
32	UA07N-5636	T/W	7	DL3SAQ-5533	M/C			
33	DL7SAR-5749	T/W	8	DL8SS-1122	T/W			
34	DL9SE-8411	T/W	9	DL8SAC-9934	T/W			
35	DL3SAL-5612	T/W	10	DL4SAW-3950	T/W			
36	DL9ST-6446	T/W	11	DL8SAF-8738	T/W			
37	DL3SBE-7529	T/W	12	DL7SAE-5719	T/W			

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0585/24-25

M.P. HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE DEV. BOARD

SYSTEM TENDER NO. 2025_MPHID_403360 (1st CALL)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Madhya Pradesh Housing & Infrastructure Development Board (MPHIDB) hereby invites online proposals through e-tendering mode from reputed consultants for **"Selection of Consultant for preparation of Feasibility Report, DPR, Architectural Services, Preparation of Tender document, Bid Process Management and Project Management for Redevelopment of LIG Colony, Nehru Nagar and Shopping Complex at Indore under Redevelopment Policy 2022 of GoMP".** The selection process would be as per RFP terms and conditions. Online bids are invited from interested bidders as per following details.

Name of Work	Cost of Tender Document	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)
Selection of Consultant for preparation of Feasibility Report, DPR, Architectural Services, Preparation of Tender document, Bid Process Management and Project Management for Redevelopment of LIG Colony, Nehru Nagar and Shopping Complex at Indore under Redevelopment Policy 2022 of GoMP. (Estimated project cost is INR 200 Cr.)	Rs. 17,700/- (Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred only i/c GST)	Rs. 4,00,000/- (Rupees Four Lakh only)

Note :- (1). The bid documents can be purchased online only at **www.mptenders.gov.in** as per schedule :- **19.02.2025 at 10:30 A.M. to 17.03.2025 at 05:30 Hrs. (2). Pre-Bid Meeting on Date :- 25.02.2025.** Time : 3.00 P.M. to 04.00 Hrs. **Venue :** Hotel Courtyard by Marriott (Lotus first floor), Bhopal. (3). Interested bidders can view the detailed NIT on website **www.mphousing.in** and **https//www.mptenders.gov.in.** (4). Key Dates are available on e-tender website. (5). Amendments to NIT if any would be published on website only, and not in newspapers. (6). MPHIDB reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason.

Visit us : www.mphousing.in /mphidb /mphidb

M.P. Madhyam/118863/2025

(DEPUTY HOUSING COMMISSIONER)
Circle – Indore

M.P. MADHYA KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
(Govt. of M.P. Undertaking)
Nishtha Parisar, Bijalee Nagar, Govindpura, Bhopal-23
Phone No. : 0755-2602033-36, Fax : 2589821, 2586636

Ref. : MD/MK/04/Abgd.NIT/3254 **Date : 18.02.2025**

TENDER NOTICE

MPMKVVCL, Bhopal, invites following bid through e-tendering.

Tender specification Number	Particulars	Approx. Value (Rs. Cr.)	Tender Fee including GST @18% (In Rs.)	Date of Pre-Bid meeting	Date of opening of tender
MD/ MK/04/1131	Appointment of an Agency for Operation and Maintenance Services of DTR, Cable and Conductor Testing Labs of MP DISCOMs.	2.38	11800.00	27.02.2025 at 03:30 PM	07.03.2025 at 03:30 PM

Other details are available on Company website **https://portal.mpcz.in** & **https://mptenders.gov.in**

M.P. Madhyam/118864/2025 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (PROC.)**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing , 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 001.
Phone No. 080-22265383. Website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-DPR-03/1777/2024-25 **Date:18.02.2025**

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING DETAILED PROJECT REPORT (DPR)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system having an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work of Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) Economic Analysis, Survey, Plan Design, Preparation of Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for Implementation of 31 MLD External Water Supply Scheme to Raichur Growth Area, Deosugur 2nd phase Housing Layout, Yeramaras, Raichur Industrial Area from Krishna River in Raichur Taluk, Raichur District and Implementation of 20 MLD External Water Supply Scheme to Nandur Industrial Area 1st phase, 2nd Phase, 3rd Phase, Kapnoor Industrial Area 1st Phase, 2nd Phase, 3rd Phase from Bheema River in Gulbarga District on Total Turnkey Basis **(2nd Call).**

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **27.02.2025 upto 04:00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer - 2

DIPR/CP/JA/5144/2024-25

Government of Uttarakhand
General Administration Department
No.-287/XXXI(15)/G/2025-02 (रा0सू0आ0) 2015
Dehradun Dated: 14 February, 2025

Press Vigyapti

Applications are invited for the vacant 02 (Two) posts of State Information Commissioners as per provisions mentioned under section 15(5) of Right to Information Act,2005 from the renowned indian citizens having wide knowledge and experience in Legal, Science & Technology, Social Services, Management, Journalism, Public Relations medium or Administration and Government.

2- Person appointed on the post of State Information Commissioner under section 15(6) of the Right to Information Act,2005 will not be the member of parliament or member of legislative council of any State or Union Territory or would not be avail any profitable post or not related from any political party or will not do any business or will not do any profession.

3- The State Information Commissioner may hold the post upto 03 (three) years or 65 years, whichever is earlier from the date of joining. The salary & allowances and other terms & conditions of service of the State Information Commissioner shall be applicable in accordance with the provisions of the notification of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India dated 24 October, 2019 "Right to Information Act (Tenure, salary, allowances and other terms and conditions of service of the Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission and the State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners in the State Information Commission) Rules, 2019". The copy of the Right to Information Act, 2005, Right to Information Act (Amendment) 2019 and Right to Information Rules, 2019 are uploaded on the website uic.gov.in of Uttarakhand Information Commission .

4- The eligible persons intending the appointment on the post of State Information Commissioner can submit their application forms in prescribed format by addressing to the Secretary, General Administration Department, Government of Uttarakhand in hard copy on 25 March 2025 upto 6:00 PM i.e. between 9:30 AM to 06:00 PM in any working day or can send through registered post on the below mentioned address :-

General Administration Section,
Office Room No.- 116
A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Bhawan
Uttarakhand Secretariat, 04 Subhash Road, Dehradun,
Mob. No.- 9927699163, 9927699917

Persons whose application forms will be received after due date would not be considered in any condition.

(Vinod Kumar Suman)
Secretary

Format of Application Form for the post of State Information Commissioner in Uttarakhand State Information Commission, Dehradun.

1. Name-
2. Date of birth-
3. Present Address-
4. Medium of contact-
   (A) Telephone number with STD Code-
   (B) Mobile No.-
   (C) Fax-
   (D) E-mail address-
5. Educational qualifications-
6. Field of specialization -
7. Present profession-
8. Achievements/Specific works done/ Experience (Maximum in 01(one) page)-
9. Declaration-

The above informations are correct as per my knowledge and belief. If any information/fact is found incorrect & misleading then on cancellation of my application form I shall not have any objection.

Dated.....
Place.....

सूचना एवं लोक संपर्क विभाग
देहरादून: दिनांक 18 फरवरी, 2025

Signature.....
Full Name.....

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

THE OBJECT OF THE SUPERIOR MAN IS TRUTH — CONFUCIUS

RYAN REYNOLDS & BLAKE LIVELY'S 'SNL' SKIT MOCKING THEIR LEGAL ROW BACKFIRES; NETIZENS CALL COUPLE 'ARROGANT'

JULIANNE MOORE'S CHILDREN BOOK ON EMBRACING DIFFERENCES IS REMOVED FROM PENTAGON-RUN SCHOOLS PENDING A REVIEW

Russia hardens demands on Ukraine in first talks with US

Agree To Set Up Peace Teams; Kremlin Wants Nato Membership Vow Scrapped

US President Donald Trump's administration said on Tuesday it agreed to hold more talks with Russia on ending the war in Ukraine after an initial meeting that excluded Kyiv, a departure from Washington's previous approach that rallied US allies to isolate Russian President Vladimir Putin.

US secretary of state Marco Rubio and Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov agreed to "appoint respective high-level teams to begin working on a path to ending the conflict in Ukraine as soon as possible", the state department said.

As the 4-1/2-hour meeting in the Saudi capital was under way, Russia hardened its demands, notably insisting it would not tolerate the Nato alliance granting membership for Kyiv. It was the first time US and Russian officials have sat down together to discuss ways to halt the deadliest conflict in Europe since WWII.

Ukraine has said it will not accept any deal imposed without its consent, and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz reiterated "there must be no decision over the heads of Ukraine".

Even before the talks took place, President Trump's administration was accused by some European politicians of handing free concessions to Moscow last week by ruling out Nato membership for Ukraine and saying it was an illusion for Kyiv to believe it could win back the 20% of its territory now under Russian control.

US national security adviser Mike Waltz told reporters in Riyadh that the war must come to a permanent end, and this would involve negotiations over territory. "Just a practical reality is that there is going to be some discussion of territory and there's going to be discussion of security guarantees," he said. Addressing Ukrainian and European concerns, Rubio said no one was being sidelined, the EU needed to be involved at some point, and any solution must be acceptable to all parties.

Even as the meeting in the Saudi capital was under way, Russia hardened its demands. Foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told reporters in Moscow it was "not enough" for Nato not to admit Ukraine as a member. She said the alliance must go further by disavowing a promise it made at a summit in Bucharest in 2008 that Kyiv would join at a future, unspecified date.

As European countries discuss the possibility of contributing peacekeepers to back any Ukraine peace deal, Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov also said in Riyadh that Moscow would not accept the deployment of Nato troops there, whatever flag they were operating under. "Of course, this is unacceptable to us."

The comments signalled that Russia will keep pressing for further concessions in the negotiations. The opening encounter on Tuesday saw Lavrov and Kremlin foreign policy aide Yuri Ushakov — two veterans who have spent a combined 34 years in their current roles — negotiate with three Trump officials in their first month on the job.

The fast-moving diplomacy, beginning with a Putin-Trump call only six days ago, has triggered alarm in Ukraine and Europe that the two leaders could cut a quick deal that ignores their security interests, and leaves Putin free to threaten Ukraine or other countries in the future. REUTERS

AFP

RIYADH CALLING: The meeting between Trump and Putin officials in Riyadh came less than a week after a phone call between the two leaders

Zelensky responds: No decision without Kyiv

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky postponed his visit to Saudi Arabia in order to not give "legitimacy" to Tuesday's meeting between US and Russian officials in Riyadh, two sources told Reuters. Speaking earlier on Tuesday in Turkiye, Zelensky said he had postponed his visit to the kingdom, which was originally planned for Wednesday, until March 10, saying he did not want "any coincidences".

"(Ukraine) didn't want to appear to give anything that happened in Riyadh any legitimacy," one of the sources familiar with the matter said.

Zelensky said in Ankara he had not been invited to Tuesday's meeting between delegations of top US and Russian officials, which included the foreign ministers. "We want no one to decide anything behind our backs... No decision can be made without Ukraine on how to end the war in Ukraine," he said. REUTERS

US, Russia to work on diplomatic & biz ties too

After more than four hours of talks, secretary of state Marco Rubio said that both sides had agreed to work on a peace settlement for Ukraine as well as to explore "the incredible opportunities that exist to partner with the Russians", both geopolitically and economically.

Rubio said the two sides agreed broadly to restore staffing at their respective embassies in Washington and Moscow and to explore closer relations and economic cooperation. A senior Kremlin official, Yuri Ushakov, said that both sides had "a very serious discussion on all the issues that we wanted to touch on," including preparations for a summit meeting between President Trump and President Vladimir Putin.

The comments suggested that apprehensions in Europe and Ukraine may only deepen that the United States and Russia could try to strike their own peace deal, sidelining Kyiv and American allies. And Russia appeared to have used Tuesday's talks to cater to Trump's interest in profits and natural resources, arguing that American oil companies and others stood to gain hundreds of billions of dollars by again doing business in Russia.

Energy and economic ties were among the topics of the call between Putin and Trump last week, according to. Trump and the Kremlin. NYT & AP

Getty Images/File

DATE YET TO BE SET: No date was set for a summit between Putin and Trump but the officials said it could happen in the coming weeks

France convenes 2nd meet, includes Canada

France plans to a host a second meeting to discuss Ukraine and European security on Wednesday, but has this time invited European countries not present earlier this week and Nato ally Canada, diplomatic sources said on Tuesday.

Two sources said those invited were Norway, Canada, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Finland, Romania, Sweden and Belgium. The format would be hybrid, including video participation, three diplomats said. REUTERS

Passenger Jet In Toronto Flips & Burns, All 80 On Board Survive

TRAGEDY AVERTED

21 Hurt, 2 Still In Hospital

TORONTO PEARSON AIRPORT
Final Approach
The jet attempted to lend amid strong winds and drifting snow
Last recorded location
Where the plane came to rest with its belly up
Wind gusts reached about 40 miles per hour when the plane landed

2025's FOURTH AVIATION ACCIDENT IN N AMERICA

- A commercial jetliner and an Army helicopter collided near Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 29, crashing into the Potomac River and killing 67 people
- A medical transportation plane crashed in Philadelphia on Jan. 31, killing the 6 people on board and another person on the ground
- On Feb. 6, 10 people were killed in a plane crash in Alaska

PAST PLANE FLIPS

- In 2009, a FedEx freighter turned over on landing at a Tokyo airport killing both pilots
- In 1999, a China Airlines flight inverted at Hong Kong, killing three of 315 occupants
- In 1997, another FedEx freighter flipped over at Newark with no fatalities.

- DL4819 flight from Minneapolis flipped over on the tarmac at Toronto Pearson International Airport while landing around 2.15pm EST. **Snow blown by winds gusting to 65kmph (40 miles per hour) were reported at the time**
- US carrier Delta said the CRJ900 aircraft was operated by its Endeavor Air subsidiary and had 76 passengers and four crew members on board
- All survived, 21 were injured. 19 have left the hospitals, with two people remaining in hospital for ongoing treatment
- Passengers swung upside down from seats after the plane flipped. **'We hit the ground, and we were sideways, and then we were upside down,' passenger John Nelson said**
- CRJ900, made by Canada's Bombardier and powered by GE Aerospace engines, was about 16 years old. Such passenger jets are often operated for two to three decades, or more. **More than 380 CRJ900s are used by airlines around the world**
- **One of the two wings was no longer attached to the plane**, a video online showed

PEARSON AIRPORT'S SECOND MIRACLE | **Last major crash at the airport was on Aug. 2, 2005**, when an Airbus A340 landing from Paris skidded off the runway and burst into flames amid stormy weather. **All 309 passengers & crew aboard Air France Flight 358 survived the crash**

Source: NYT & Agencies

Delta Flight 4819's landing seemed routine — until it wasn't. For the 80 people on board, the world lurched immediately after the wheels hit the ground at Toronto Pearson International Airport on Monday. The plane sparked and burst into flames as it skidded along the runway, then it rolled onto its back, its right wing shearing off.

In the blink of an eye, passengers found themselves hanging upside down, still strapped into their seats as jet fuel began running down the windows, said Pete Carlson, one of those on the flight. "The initial feeling is just, 'Need to get out of this'," he told CBC News.

But after a string of fatal aviation accidents over the past two months, this crash proved different. Flight attendants and passengers were able to help each other out of emergency exits and onto the snow. At least 18 people were injured, including one adult and one child in critical but non-life-threatening condition, but everyone was expected to survive.

Authorities are investigating the cause of the accident, which occurred amid strong winds and drifting snow. Officials said 22 of the passengers were Canadians and the rest were from other countries.

A video on social media Tuesday showed the moment of the jet's crash landing. The video, taken from a nearby runway, shows the aircraft landing hard on a snow-covered runway and then flipping over amid black clouds of smoke.

The jet, a Bombardier CRJ900 operated by a Delta subsidiary, Endeavor Air, was landing at 2.15pm Eastern time after a seemingly normal flight along the busy route between Minneapolis and Toronto. Communications between the tower and pilot were normal on approach and it's not clear what went so drastically wrong when the plane touched down. Audio recordings show the control tower warned the pilots of a possible air flow "bump" on the approach.

A video taken from the cockpit of another jetliner waiting on the tarmac, shows the plane appearing to hit the runway hard before bursting into flames. "Oh no no no no no," the pilot is heard saying in the video laced with expletives.

"The second the wheels hit the ground, everything happened," said Pete Koukov, a professional skier from Colorado. "The next thing I know, we're sideways." When the plane came to a stop belly-up, he unbuckled and lowered himself to the ceiling of the aircraft, which was now its floor. "People were panicking," he said. A video taken by Koukov shows a flight attendant helping passengers climb out of the plane, urging them to hurry and to leave their belongings behind.

In the aftermath of the crash, an air traffic controller told a medical helicopter pilot who offered to help: "There are people outside walking around the aircraft there." "Yeah, we've got it. The aircraft is upside down and burning," the helicopter pilot replied, according to LiveATC audio.

The crash is likely to create aviation chaos. Toronto Pearson, Canada's largest and busiest airport, was already juggling delays and cancellations caused by winter storms.

Endeavor Air, based in Minneapolis, is a subsidiary of Delta Air Lines and the world's largest operator of CRJ-900 aircraft. The airline operates 130 regional jets on 700 daily flights to 126 cities in US, Canada and Caribbean. AGENCIES

THE OTHER US-MEDIATED CONFLICT SEES PROGRESS & SETBACK

Hamas to release 6 hostages, return 4 bodies this week, more than expected

Israel Says Talks For 2nd Phase Of Ceasefire To Begin

Cairo: A Hamas leader said Tuesday the militant group would release six living Israeli hostages on Saturday and the bodies of four others on Thursday, a surprise increase that apparently comes in return for Israel allowing mobile homes and construction equipment into Gaza.

The six are the last living hostages set to be freed under the ceasefire's first phase. The warring sides have yet to negotiate the second and more difficult phase, in which Hamas says it will release dozens more hostages in exchange for a lasting ceasefire and an Israeli withdrawal.

Israel said Tuesday it would begin negotiations on the second phase, adding that Israel demanded a complete demilitarisation of the enclave. Negotiations for the second phase were supposed to be under way before the first phase ended on March 2, but Qatar said talks have not started yet.

Hamas leader Khalil al-Hayya, in prerecorded remarks, said the "Bibas family" would be included in the handover of four bodies Thursday, apparently referring to Shiri Bibas and her sons, Ariel and Kfir, who for many Israelis embody the captives' plight. Israel has not confirmed their deaths and the PM's office urged the public not to distribute "photos, names and rumours." Yarden, the husband and father, was kidnapped separately and freed this month.

An Israeli official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said PM Benjamin Netanyahu had agreed to allow long-requested mobile homes and construction equipment into Gaza as part of efforts to accelerate the hostages' release.

Israel is expected to continue releasing hundreds of Palestinian prisoners, including many serving life sentences in exchange for the hostages. During the first phase, Israel is also due to release all women and children seized from Gaza since the war began. Israelis and Palestinians marked 500 days of war on Monday. AGENCIES

AP

The bodies of Shiri Bibas and her sons Ariel and Kfir will be handed over Thursday, Hamas said. The Bibas family, for many Israelis, embody the captives' plight. Yarden, the husband and father, was released earlier this month

Lebanon seeks full Israeli withdrawal as its troops linger

Kfar Kila: Lebanese leaders said Beirut was in contact with Washington and Paris to press Israel to fully withdraw from south Lebanon, branding its presence in five points an "occupation" after a ceasefire deadline expired on Tuesday. The UN called the incomplete pullout a violation of a Security Council resolution, though it has allowed many displaced residents to return to border villages, many largely destroyed.

Israel announced just before the pullout deadline that it would keep troops in "five strategic points" near the border, and its foreign minister Tuesday said they would withdraw "once Lebanon implements its side of the deal". Israel's army said it would remain on the five hilltops, overlooking swathes of both sides of the border, "temporarily" to "make sure there's no immediate threat".

Under the ceasefire, Lebanon's military was to deploy alongside UN peacekeepers as the Israeli army withdrew. AFP

Hasina slams Yunus' interim govt for 'atrocities', vows to return for justice

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: Vowing to return to her homeland and ensure justice for the victims of the Yunus govt's "atrocities", deposed PM Sheikh Hasina, currently residing in India, accused chief adviser Muhammad Yunus of turning Bangladesh into a hub of terrorism and lawlessness, while urging the people to "save Bangladesh from the repressive and militant Yunus government".

In one of the audio messages shared on Awami League's verified Facebook page, "I will return. The killers (of her party supporters) will face justice in Bangladesh. Their reckoning will happen on Bangladeshi soil. Perhaps that's why Allah has kept me alive."

Accusing Yunus of remaining silent as "dozens of police officers" were killed last year during the student-led riots against her quota reforms and allowing lawlessness to take over, Hasina said, "Yunus has no experience of running a govt. He dissolved all inquiry committees and unleashed terrorists to butcher people. They are destroying Bangladesh. We will out this govt of terrorists." Hasina described the "illegal" Yunus-led govt's failure to ensure public safety over the past six months. She accused the administration of killing her party supporters and police personnel while also scrapping the passports of some of the people who played key roles in UN peacekeeping missions. She also alleged that the interim govt was violating the country's laws and constitution, expressing hope that Bangladesh would regain its global standing through public resistance.

Criticising the govt's handling of the economy and security, Hasina said, "More than six months have passed, yet mob violence continues. Now I hear he will launch 'Operation Devil Hunt'. He is unable to run the country. The economy is in crisis, law and order is deteriorating, and public safety is at risk."

She interacted online with widows of policemen killed in recent protests, describing their deaths as part of a broader effort to destabilise the country. "It is part of the same design that led to the demolition of the Bangabandhu Memorial at Dhanmondi," she said.

NYT

Deposed PM Sheikh Hasina, currently residing in India, accused Muhammad Yunus of turning Bangladesh into a hub of terrorism and lawlessness

China raises Trump tariffs at WTO, warns of 'recession'

Geneva: China condemned tariffs launched or threatened by US President Donald Trump at a World Trade Organization meeting on Tuesday, warning that such "tariff shocks" threaten to upend the global trading system and could risk a global recession. Trump has announced sweeping 10% tariffs on all Chinese imports, prompting Beijing to respond with retaliatory tariffs and to file a WTO dispute against Washington in what could be an early test of Trump's stance towards the institution. "These 'Tariff Shocks' heighten economic uncertainty, disrupt global trade, and risk domestic inflation, market distortion, or even global recession," China's ambassador to the WTO Li Chenggang said at a closed-door meeting, according to a statement sent to Reuters. The WTO discussion is the first time that mounting trade frictions will be formally addressed on the agenda of the watchdog's top decision-making body, General Council. REUTERS

'Deport Musk, dethrone Trump': Thousands protest on Prez Day

Boston: Protesters against President Trump and his policies braved frigid temperatures in parts of the US Monday, shouting "No kings on Presidents Day" in East Coast cities and attempting to enter the Arizona statehouse to oppose a bill that would bolster fast-changing federal immigration enforcement. In Florida and California, local media reported on hundreds of protesters carrying out "Not my Presidents Day" protests. The "No Kings" theme was orchestrated by the 50501 Movement, and marked a second set of protests crisscrossing the nation in less than two weeks. A similar event on Feb. 5 drew participants in dozens of cities. Both sets of rallies denounced Trump and his adviser Elon Musk.

Nearly 1,000 people marched in the snow from the statehouse in Boston to City Hall, chanting "Elon Musk has got to go" and other slogans.

Organisers of Monday's protests, which were focused on state capitals and major cities said they were targeting "anti-democratic and illegal actions of the Trump administration and its plutocratic allies." The rallies followed a series of Trump executive orders and came days after layoffs across federal agencies. AP

#NOKINGS: Monday's protests, with the theme 'No Kings', were a second set of demonstrations held across the US in less than 2 weeks

Who runs DOGE? 'Not Musk': White House

Elon Musk's role in the Trump administration is as a White House employee and senior adviser to the president, and is not an employee of the Department of Govt Efficiency (DOGE) and has no decision-making authority, the White House said in a court filing on Monday. According to a filing signed by Joshua Fisher, director of the Office of Administration at the White House, Musk can only advise the president and communicate the president's directives. "Like other senior White House advisers, Musk has no actual or formal authority to make govt decisions himself," it said.

Fisher's filing, made in a case brought against Musk by the State of New Mexico, said that Musk was not an employee of the US DOGE Service, or the US DOGE Service Temporary Organisation, and added: "Musk is not the US DOGE Service Administrator." REUTERS

Top social security official quits after DOGE seeks data

The top official at the Social Security Administration stepped down this weekend after members of Elon Musk's DOGE sought access to sensitive personal data about millions of Americans held by the agency, said people familiar with the matter. The resignation of acting commissioner Michelle King is the latest abrupt departure of a senior federal official who refused to provide Musk's lieutenants with access to closely held data.

King was replaced by Leland Dudek, sources said. NYT

DAILY PLANET

'Let out your inner granny': Knits at the flicks craze grips Vienna

AFP

'GRANNYCORE' IS A BLOCKBUSTER!

Armed with yarn, needles and hooks, dexterous moviegoers flock to a cinema in Vienna every month to combine their favourite hobbies: knits and flicks. With many having turned to time-honoured crafts like crochet and knitting during the pandemic, a growing number of enthusiasts are looking to connect with the craft community in real life. Vienna's Votiv Kino has become the latest theatre in Europe to offer craft cinema nights, a trend trailblazed by Nordic countries. "We saw it exists in the US, Denmark, Finland, Germany," said avid knitter Luisa Palmer, who initiated the knitting nights at Votiv Kino. Since its Dec launch, the knitting nights have sold out, drawing almost 180 visitors each time. With the lights only slightly dimmed while 'The Devil Wears Prada' was showing on Sunday, the cinemagoers got crafty. "It is a bit 'grannycore', but I find it very calming and pleasant. Why not let out your inner granny?" quipped Alexander Koch, 28

China's snow village tries to woo tourists with cotton flakes, apologises after criticism

A tourist village in China's Sichuan province famed for its scenic snow landscape said it was sorry for using cotton wool and soapy water to create fake snow after criticism from visitors went viral. Chengdu Snow Village project said the steps were taken during the Lunar New Year holiday in Jan as the weather was warm. After the feedback, the area was cleaned up. The village said the tourists can get a refund. The site is closed.

TIMES BUSINESS
THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Tesla's cars coming soon to India? Co seeks retail staff

Showrooms Likely In Mumbai's BKC, Delhi Aerocity

Pankaj Doval & Saurabh Sinha | TNN

New Delhi: Elon Musk may be inching closer to launching Tesla's much-acclaimed electric cars in India. Days after meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the US, Tesla seems to have revived its stalled plans to enter the Indian market and has advertised for retail positions in Mumbai.

This is one of the strongest indications that the company has finally decided to look at starting operations in the country, after flirting with the idea for several years, including Musk announcing plans to visit the country early last year, before calling it off at the last minute. Sources said Tesla will initially import cars into the country and sell them through retail outlets in Mumbai and Delhi.

"In Delhi, the showroom is likely to open at WorldMark at Aerocity in one of the three existing office blocks. The likely site could be at Worldmark 3 that once used to house a mall and is the biggest space in this complex. Brookfield and Tesla have been in talks for the same," said a source. Real estate insiders said Tesla had been scouting for a place in Delhi "between Saket and Vasant Kunj." In Mumbai, the showroom is going to be in BKC.

The company has listed 13 jobs on its website and social media platform LinkedIn for various customer-facing and back-end roles in Mumbai. Among them is a "store manager", responsible for overseeing and driving sales at the location, one job listing showed, a pointer to the company looking to open a showroom in India's financial capital. Delivery operations and customer support specialists are also being sought, the ads showed. Tesla is understood to have hired some officials in India earlier too but then let them go as entry plans were put on hold.

Musk and US President Donald Trump have often criticised the high import duty on cars in India, and Tesla may have decided to change plans in favour of the country after assurances of support from the govt this time around.

Besides, India and the US have agreed to negotiate a bilateral trade agreement, where tariffs are expected to be cut. Tesla's plans may have also been encouraged by a decision in the Budget where govt lowered the basic customs duty for cars costing upwards of $40,000, though the effective duty was left unchanged.

MUSK'S FLIP-FLOPS ON INDIA

2021 | Musk says he wants 'temporary relief' on custom tax as 'import duties (in India) are the highest in the world by far for any large country!'

2022 | Tesla begins work to import cars into India after exploratory efforts, and also hires some personnel, but plans go into cold storage

➤ Musk complains about high import duty in India, claims the tax structure does 'not seem consistent with the climate goals' of the country

2024 | Musk announces plans to visit India in April to meet PM Modi, but cancels at the last minute

Rupee dips to 86.95, dollar gains against Asian majors

Mumbai: The rupee closed at 86.95 against the US dollar on Tuesday, slipping 8 paise as demand for dollars linked to maturing non-deliverable forward (NDF) contracts and weakness among regional peers weighed on the currency. The benchmark 10-year bond was quoted at Rs.100.7, with the yield at 6.7%, as investors awaited a debt purchase scheduled for later this week.

Last week, the rupee breached the 87 mark for the first time before staging a sharp recovery, following aggressive intervention by the RBI, which is believed to have sold several billion dollars to support the currency. This intervention is seemed to have limited further losses.

The NDF is a cash-settled, currency contract where parties agree to exchange the difference between a contracted exchange rate and the market rate on a specified future date, without the physical delivery of the currency.

In addition to pressures from maturing NDF positions, outflows from local stocks also affected the rupee. Foreign investors have pulled out around $12 billion from Indian equities in 2025, adding to the currency's woes.

Regional weakness compounded rupee's troubles as the offshore Chinese yuan slipped 0.2% to 7.3, and the dollar index edged close to the 107 mark. US bond yields rose, strengthening the dollar, which continued its rebound after President Trump postponed the implementation of reciprocal trade tariffs. TNN

Smartphone exports jump 50% on iPhone shipments

Mobile Exports Touch ₹1.5L Cr In April-Jan, Expected To Reach ₹1.8L Cr In 2024-25

Pankaj.Doval
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Led by record production of iPhones, India's mobile phone exports surged nearly 50% in the first 10 months of this financial year with the value of shipments estimated at Rs 1.5 lakh crore during April-Jan, compared with Rs 1 lakh crore in same period last year.

The surge has been primarily led by a strong push by Apple, which has made its India factories the company's global manufacturing hubs, parallel to its set-ups in China. It is estimated that iPhone exports during April-Jan were close to Rs 1 lakh crore, against Rs 60,000 crore in the same period last year.

Samsung is relatively smaller with exports estimated at Rs 34,500 crore so far in 2024-25.

Industry body India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) said with the establishment of a strong manufacturing base in the country, exports are expected to close the year at Rs 1.8 lakh crore, as against Rs 1.3 lakh crore in the previous fiscal.

"This represents approximately 40% growth over the previous fiscal year… and an estimated over 680% growth since production-linked incentive (PLI) for smartphones was announced in FY21. Mobile phone export is the largest growth driver within electronics, with the US standing out as a key market," ICEA chairman Pankaj Mohindroo said.

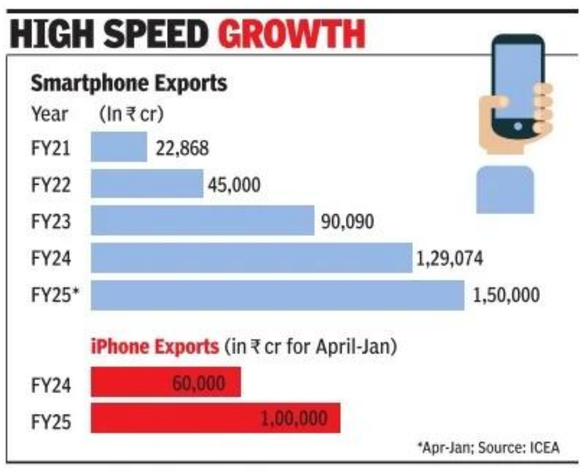
The latest numbers released by the commerce department showed that in Jan, electronics goods had overtaken oil products as the second largest item in India's export basket. The PLI scheme has not only helped boost exports from India but has also resulted in a reduction in imports as nearly 99% of the domestic demand is also catered to by the local production. . "Looking ahead, production is set to reach an estimated Rs 5.1 lakh crore, further cementing India's emergence as a global manufacturing powerhouse."

Mohindroo said the scale has been built on the back of govt incentive schemes and rapid investments made by industry. "Moving forward, we will focus on nurturing competitiveness, expanding scale, and strengthening our supply chain. The next phase will involve aggressive integration with the value chain to boost domestic value addition, driving us toward achieving India's ambitious $500 billion electronics manufacturing target and becoming the largest exporter of smartphones globally."

While China continues to be the dominant supplier to the iPhone maker globally, India has been coming up strongly over the past few years as companies such as Foxconn and now Tata group have been ramping up production.

Govt believes that with Apple now planning to expand beyond iPhones, there can be a further boost to India's electronics exports. The company, which currently has no plans to make the MacBook laptops here, is starting production of AirPods in the country.

HIGH SPEED GROWTH



Mittal sells $1bn Bharti stake amid BT buy

GQG Partners LLC and Fidelity Investments were among the several big name investors which bought into Bharti Airtel, according to people familiar, as billionaire-founder Sunil Bharti Mittal seeks funds for newer opportunities.

Indian Continental Investment, a founder entity of Bharti Airtel sold just over 0.8% stake or 51 million shares for Rs 8,485 crore ($976 million) and nearly a fourth of that was bought by another group firm Bharti Telecom, according to an exchange filing Tuesday.

Lazard Inc, SBI Life Insurance, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance were among the other investors which picked up the remaining shares, according to people aware of the development. GQG Partners is now among the top ten investors in the wireless carrier, one person said. The stake sale happened at Rs 1660.46 apiece, a small discount to Monday's close of Rs 1,675.6.

An email sent to representatives of GQG Partners, Fidelity and Lazard did not get an immediate response out of normal business. Spokespersons for SBI Life and Bharti Airtel did not immediately comment while a representative for ICICI Prudential declined to comment.

The shares were "allocated only to key marquee long-only names, both global and domestic," Airtel's filing said. The sale comes at a time when Mittal is expanding his business operations overseas with investments in Africa and UK-based satellite company OneWeb. A unit of closely held Bharti Enterprises. bought a 24.5% stake in BT Group last year. BLOOMBERG

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GOOD TIME FOR
MULTI ASSET ALLOCATION FUNDS
A fund for all market conditions with Equity, Fixed Income, Gold, Silver, etc.
DIVERSIFICATION
Invests in at least 3 asset classes to manage risk and seek growth in various market conditions.
CONVENIENCE
Offers a convenient way to gain exposure to multiple asset classes in one fund.
TAX EFFICIENCY
Provides equity / non-equity taxation benefits depending on the asset allocation.

AN INVESTOR EDUCATION AND AWARENESS INITIATIVE BY SBI MUTUAL FUND.
Investors should deal only with registered Mutual Funds, details of which can be verified on the SEBI website (https://www.sebi.gov.in) under 'Intermediaries/Market Infrastructure Institutions'. Please refer to the website of Mutual Funds for the process of completing one-time KYC (Know Your Customer) including the process for change in address, phone number, bank details, etc. Investors may lodge complaints on https://www.scores.gov.in against registered intermediaries if they are unsatisfied with their responses. SCORES facilitates you to lodge your complaint online with SBI and subsequently view its status.

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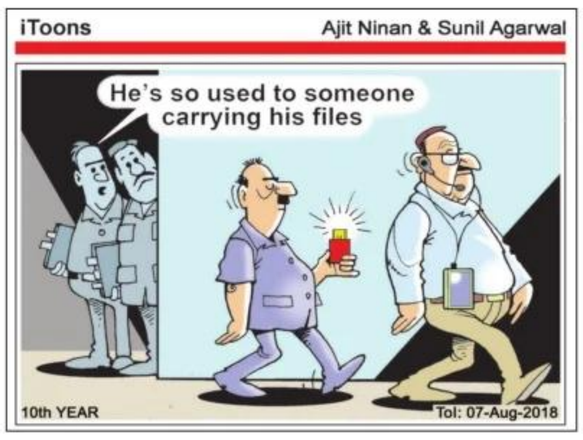
Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

TECH I'D LIKE TO SEE

GIFTING IS EVOLVING INTO AN ART FORM

Technology is transforming the gifting industry into an experience-driven ecosystem. AI and data analytics are redefining personalisation by predicting preferences and suggesting gifts that resonate emotionally. Imagine a virtual assistant guiding you to curate the perfect gift, or an AI-powered platform creating bespoke hampers based on real-time sentiment analysis. The rise of AR and VR is adding a layer of immersion to gifting. Picture unwrapping a gift virtually before it's even delivered or walking through a virtual marketplace to handpick items for a loved one. Blockchain is bringing transparency to the supply chain, ensuring authenticity for premium gifts like jewelry or collectibles. I envision a future where gifts are not just exchanged but experienced. With instant delivery innovations and sustainability-focused solutions, technology is creating a world where every gift tells a story – crafted thoughtfully, delivered seamlessly, and cherished endlessly. Gifting, powered by tech, is evolving from a gesture to an art form.

Gaurav Sharma | CTO, FNP (FORMERLY FERNS N PETALS)



Using Indian docs, lawyers & engrs to serve US insurance

Allstate centres in Pune & Bengaluru are becoming critical hubs

Sujit.John@timesofindia.com

Allstate employees in India at an annual internal event

We are a mother's delight. These days it's changed a little, but in our generation, if someone said, what do you want your kids to become, you would say an engineer or a doctor or a lawyer or something like that. We employ all of them," says Tanay Kediyal, managing director at the India operations of Allstate.

Allstate is one of the biggest insurance companies in the US, with revenue of about $57-billion. Its focus is auto and home insurance. In 2012, it established a global capability centre (GCC) in India. In more recent years, the centre has expanded rapidly, growing to about 8,000 people across its two locations in Pune and Bengaluru.

Initially, the focus was on software. When the Pune centre started around 2015-16, the centre also started getting deep into operations.

> The term GCC is something that we have created here in India. When I started working, it used to be known as captive centres, then GICs (global inhouse centres), now GCCs. But for us, we are just Allstate. Doesn't matter where we are. The kind of work we do, the investment that we put in, it's exactly as we would do in Charlotte or Texas or Chicago. In terms of both accountability and responsibility, it's all the same.

That's when doctors, lawyers, auto engineers, civil engineers, and construction management folks also began to be hired.

Today, India is a hub for a range of activities, like insurance underwriting, policy administration, determining and settling claims. "If you are taking insurance, somebody has to underwrite it to say, should I give you the policy or should I not give you the policy. And if I give you the policy, what rate should I give you that policy. A lot of that review is done by our teams here," says Kediyal.

Once you have a policy, you may at some point want changes, like more coverage, or a change of address, or in auto insurance, a second driver to be added. That policy administration work is happening in India.

And then, if you have an accident, and you file a claim in the US, now you just need to take pictures and upload it into Allstate's system. Kediyal's teams will review it, and will send the cheque.

All of this requires a lot of training to understand the US environment, systems and regulations. Doctors receive training on US regulations; they also are trained virtually on how a crash happens, where the bodily injury tends to happen. "We've actually got a human skeleton in our office with the kind of injuries that happen in a crash," says Kediyal.

> Our primary business in the US is around home insurance and auto insurance. So we have (in the India GCCs) auto engineers who understand automobiles inside out, who understand how they should be fixed and repaired. We've got civil engineers, construction management people, because when homes get impacted, you need people who understand how houses are built and repaired. We have some 200 doctors, we need them to assess bodily injury claims (in car crashes, for instance). Since crash victims may go to multiple doctors, we could get reports of a thousand pages, and our doctors need to review all of that. We have 200 lawyers who do paralegal work out of here. When something gets into litigation, they have to figure out how to resolve it. That's a new capability we are building here.
> —Tanay Kediyal | MD, ALLSTATE INDIA

Auto engineers are sent to the Audi factory in Maharashtra to understand all the intricacies of cars, and of how repairs are done. For an understanding of construction management, Allstate has used a floor in its Pune office to build a whole house for engineers to understand how walls, plumbing, carpets, electricity connections, etc in US houses look. There are also AR/VR glasses that are used to understand the nature of damages that could happen in a house when a calamity occurs.

"Training is one thing Allstate invests big time," says Kediyal.

Speeding up with tech

The other big area of work is around technology. Kediyal says one of the most cutting-edge products the centre has built is what they call ASC (affordable, simple, connected). This application allows US customers to do almost everything around insurance on their phone – buy a policy, make changes to the policy, file claims. This has been deployed across many of the states in the US, and the rest are in progress. "If you're buying anything from ASC, it's pretty much instantaneous. In three minutes, you have a policy in your hand, not days like it did previously," Kediyal says.

> In the past, you could take a picture (of a car crash or a home damage), send it here, we would look at it and do an estimate. Now we have AI models that will look at that picture and do an estimate itself. And that's work happening out of the India centres. We have a human-in-the-loop approach. In the past, if it was taking me three days or five days to give you back a response to your claim, now, with human-in-the-loop, I can give it back to you in one day.

Another major work has been around the claims platform. This is where all the photos for claims come in from policy holders. All the photos come into a central repository and then claims processors can look at those photos and do an estimate. Now, AI is being infused into this process.

"In the past, you could take a picture, send it here, I will look at it and do an estimate. Now, we have AI models that will look at that picture and do an estimate. That's work happening out of here," Kediyal says.

So, if your car is totaled (beyond repair), and it needs to be towed to a salvage yard, someone in Allstate needs to look and say, yes, this is to be totaled, and then an estimation has to be put and then money sent to you as a cheque. In the traditional way, Kediyal says, it used to take about 12 days for this whole process, from the day you met with the accident. "With the digital claim centre, that's been brought down to five days. Now, with AI and human-in-loop, we expect this to come down to three days," Kediyal says.

Why core engg matters a lot in this age of AI

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As the world races towards rapid digitalisation, artificial intelligence and computer science courses seem to be capturing the imagination of the new generation of students. Universities across India – and indeed globally – are witnessing a shift in enrolment trends, with prospective engineers opting for AI, machine learning, data science and related branches over traditional disciplines like mechanical, civil, or chemical engineering. Startups and tech conglomerates beckon them with promises of quick career progression and lucrative financial rewards. Yet, leading academics and education experts warn that focusing on AI-related fields risks overlooking the essential pillars of engineering, which remain as relevant today as ever.

Hiralal Pramanik, professor in the department of chemical engineering at IIT BHU since 2005, says the move away from core engineering subjects is a clear trend. "Many of our students are motivated towards AI, machine learning, or fintech," he says. "But we encourage them to remain in the core areas. Core chemical engineering, for example, is fundamental to manufacturing industries from fertilisers and polymers to dyes and paints. Without chemical engineers, we cannot imagine our daily lives at all."

Abhinanda Sarkar, academic director at Great Learning, notes that while AI continues to permeate practically every sector, the real-world challenges we face – such as developing electric vehicles, exploring renewable energy, and designing more efficient systems – rely heavily on foundational engineering knowledge. "Engineering in its essence transcends specific disciplines like computer science or AI. These new technologies play an increasingly significant role, but it is the foundational engineering principles, learned through core subjects, that enable advancements in areas like electric vehicle design, energy grids, and space exploration."

> Many students today lean towards AI or machine learning, but we strongly encourage them to keep the fundamentals of core engineering, like chemical engineering, at the heart of their studies. These fields underpin every aspect of manufacturing, from polymers and fertilisers to oil and gas. By combining AI with deep chemical knowledge, students can tackle industry challenges more effectively and remain essential contributors to the world's evolving global technological landscape.
> **Hiralal Pramanik** | PROFESSOR, DEPT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY, IIT BHU

> Engineering, in its essence, transcends specific disciplines like computer science or AI. The challenges of today – from developing electric vehicles and renewable energy solutions to space exploration – require a holistic understanding of various engineering domains. While AI plays an increasingly significant role, it is the foundational engineering principles, learned through core subjects, that enable these advancements.
> **Abhinanda Sarkar** | ACADEMIC DIRECTOR, GREAT LEARNING

IGNITE YOUR CAREER

Indeed, the rise of AI in engineering has not rendered core engineering obsolete. Quite the contrary: AI can be a powerful tool that complements and enhances the efficacy of traditional engineering processes. "We are showing our students how to connect chemical engineering with AI and machine learning. The fundamentals of thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and transport phenomena are indispensable. Once they master these basics, they can integrate AI to solve complex problems more efficiently," says Pramanik.

Student misconception

The shift in student preferences often stems from misconceptions about future career prospects. There is a belief that software roles, supported by AI expertise, automatically guarantee higher salaries and faster career progression. While the demand for AI-related skill sets is undoubtedly growing, these skills are often inadequate in the absence of domain knowledge. Oil and gas giants, pharmaceutical companies, materials research laboratories, and semiconductor manufacturing facilities all require skilled chemical, mechanical, and electrical engineers, often well-versed in AI but fundamentally anchored in their core domains.

"A strong background in chemical engineering can make you a better techie," Pramanik says. "Many students do not realise that the petroleum industry, for instance, pays extremely well, and the work is deeply challenging and meaningful. Firms like HPCL and Reliance depend on chemical engineers to manage processes from refining to polymer synthesis. If you combine that expertise with AI-driven data analysis, you become invaluable in the modern workforce."

The New Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in India acknowledges this growing need for multidisciplinary learning. It allows students to take on multiple majors, meaning an individual enrolled in chemical engineering can also study computer science modules simultaneously, and vice versa. "We tell students there is no need to feel restricted," Pramanik says. "You can major in chemical engineering while also learning AI. That combination is potent – 80% in your core subject, 20% from another domain – and you can deliver better solutions in any industry."

This dual approach to education is, according to Sarkar, the best way forward. "Digital tools such as CAD and simulation software have brought a wave of digitalisation to almost all fields of engineering, including chemical, mechanical, and electrical. AI can further accelerate innovation. But no algorithm can replace the essential knowledge of fluid dynamics, reaction kinetics, or structural integrity. AI can enhance these skills, not substitute them."

One challenge is how best to encourage students to keep one foot firmly planted in core engineering. Both Pramanik and Sarkar say that better awareness of real-world applications is key. Students need to see the vast role chemical engineering – and other foundational branches – plays in the industries they interact with daily. From pharmaceuticals to semiconductors, from advanced materials to biodegradable plastics, chemical engineers are at the forefront of innovation that matters to every consumer.

He fought with family, a doctor dismissed his product, but now...

TECHNOVATE UTTARAKHAND CONCLAVE IN DEHRADUN

Winners of Technovate for India ideathon at Dehradun, with Jones Joseph, COO, and Ajeesh Satheesan, CMO, Talrop

WINNERS OF IDEATHON

WINNER	FIRST RUNNER-UP
IMS Unison University	Swami Rama Himalayan University
Stuti Nautiyal, Manpreet Singh	Gurmanjyot Kaur, Anshika Bijalwan, Kavya Pant

SECOND RUNNER-UP
Tula's Institute
Aniket Adarsh, Aditya Sharma, Akriti Kumari

Tanmayee.Tyagi@timesofindia.com

The death of a close friend at the age of 21 due to a heart attack, spurred Rajat Jain to design a solution that could diagnose heart attacks using smartphones.

"Every year 20 lakh people die of heart attacks. This number is higher than the Covid death count and still we do nothing about it. We don't fall sick every day and yet we keep a thermometer at home," Jain said at the Technovate for India conclave in Dehradun.

Jain's vision was that people should readily have a cardiac health measuring device when they needed it the most. Jain had done a mechanical engineering degree from a private university in Dehradun, and then worked in startup incubation in Uttarakhand, before founding Sunfox Technologies in 2016 with the goal of developing affordable and portable medical devices for cardiac health.

More than 95% physicians don't have a cardiac assessment tool, Jain noted. "There's a limit on the technology as well. An ECG is usually a bulky machine, and is simply a time-voltage graph. We removed everything from the ECG like display, battery, keypad, etc, that is already there on your phone. All we needed was a sensor to detect electrical activities. And that enabled us to reduce the cost of the machine by almost a hundred times," Jain said.

> The only person who can hold you back is you. You can actually build and execute your dreams from anywhere in this digital age. If you face a challenge, you have to keep trying. You have to take feedback from your own mistakes. A very critical part becomes building a team. With the right people, who understand your vision, 90% problems get solved. There is also a need to upgrade your skill set. Instead of being afraid of AI or automation, upgrade your skills and master those technologies so that you never lose your relevance.
> **Rajat Jain** | FOUNDER & CEO, SUNFOX TECHNOLOGIES

With the product they developed, an entire cardiac checkup can be done at home for less than Rs 7,000. It's a matchbox-sized device that is plugged into the phone and the patient receives ICU-grade information in less than 20 seconds. Sunfox is said to be one of the largest ECG providers in India. It exports to 28 countries. Jain and team have also launched a military-grade version that they are supplying to the Indian Army.

"At the graduate level, many of us do not know what we aspire to do. I was like that when I started my civil engineering, before I moved to robotics and then mechanical engineering. What my journey taught me was that when you have people around you who don't discourage you, the chances of succeeding are very high," Jain said.

There were societal and family expectations to take a high paying job, move outside the country.

"But then we lost a friend to a heart attack. And it hit us that we have a fast computer sitting in our pocket. Wouldn't it be something if we could use it to save lives," said Jain.

He had no financial help, no expertise. "We developed our first prototype over three years, fought with our families and put everything we had in this effort. We then took it to a doctor who dismissed it as an engineering project that 'we should throw in the dustbin'. The disappointment was of epic proportions but then Shark Tank happened in 2022, and our product finally received the recognition it deserved. We now have a team of around 120 people in Dehradun," he said.

Sunfox has conducted more than 2 million tests globally.

TALROP PRESENTS TECHNOVATE FOR INDIA AN INITIATIVE BY THE TIMES OF INDIA

SpotDraft employees

➤ During a late-night contract review session, Shashank Bijapur recognised the pressing requirement for an efficient contracting solution for legal teams. **At a time when entrepreneurs were making driverless cars a reality, lawyers were still manually handling contract documentation.** In 2017, the Harvard Law alumnus collaborated with Madhav Bhagat, a Carnegie Mellon graduate and former Google engineer, to establish SpotDraft.

➤ The leadership team expanded when another Carnegie Mellon alum and software engineer Rohith Salim joined as chief product officer (CPO), followed by Akshay Verma, a legal industry expert who was in Coinbase and Meta, who is now COO.

➤ **Legal teams spend about 60% of their time reviewing contracts.** Swift contract completion can significantly improve organisational efficiency. SpotDraft is a contract lifecycle management platform (CLM) that removes procedural delays, speeds up approvals, and maintains compliance standards. It offers insights into contracting processes for improved efficiency. Shashank said, "We're like the Salesforce of contract management."

➤ The platform includes AI-supported redlining, e-signatures, intelligent contract repository, third-party documentation, and clickwrap agreements (agreements you accept by clicking a button or checking a box). **The AI tool was developed with input from numerous legal specialists. It accelerates contract reviews and enables customised playbook creation.**

➤ SpotDraft is today a **250-people team across Bengaluru and New York.** It serves more than 400 organisations. The company has secured $80 million in funding from investors including Vertex Growth Singapore and Trident Growth Partners.

REACTION KINETICS

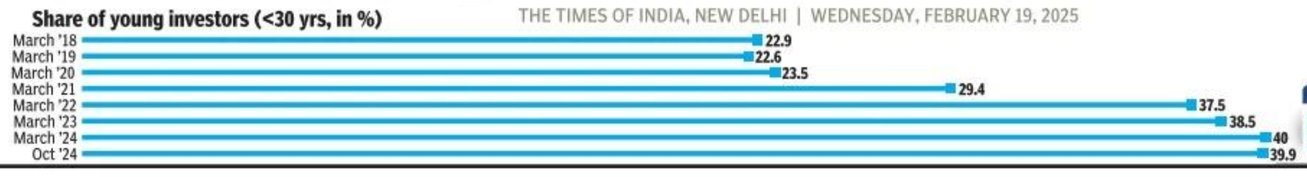
GLOSSARY OF IN-GROUP TERMS USED **ON THIS PAGE**

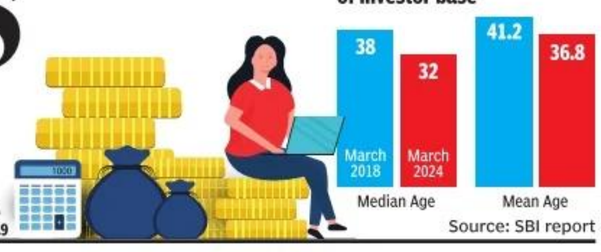
Reaction kinetics, or chemical kinetics, is the study of the rates of chemical reactions and the factors influencing them. It examines how reactant concentrations, temperature, catalysts, and physical states affect reaction speed. The rate of a reaction is typically expressed as a change in concentration over time and is governed by the rate equation, which depends on the reaction mechanism. The Arrhenius equation describes the temperature dependence of reaction rates. Reaction kinetics is crucial in fields such as pharmaceuticals, materials science, and environmental chemistry, aiding in optimising industrial processes, understanding biochemical pathways, and controlling pollutant degradation.

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Share of young investors (less than 30-year age individuals) **has been rising** over the last few years, driven by tech advancements, lower trading costs and increased access to information. Also, mean/median age of investors has declined





Sebi de-registers 19 defunct foreign VCs, says criteria not met

New Delhi: Capital markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday cancelled the registration of 19 defunct FVCI (Foreign Venture Capital Investors) after they failed to meet the eligibility criteria. Sebi noted that these defunct FVCI companies are no longer in existence as incorporated entities in their respective jurisdictions and thereby no longer satisfy the condition of being an entity incorporated outside India as stipulated in the FVCI Regulations. AGENCIES

Licious plans 2026 IPO, eyes $2bn valuation

Online meat and seafood retailer Licious is looking to debut on the bourses in the next 12-18 months and is targeting a valuation of $2 billion, a source said on Tuesday. It was valued at $1.5 billion at its last funding round in 2023. REUTERS

R-Infra to foray into renewables space

New Delhi: Reliance Infrastructure is entering into the renewable energy equipment manufacturing space. It would set up an integrated solar manufacturing unit to boost the production of solar panels and components. AGENCIES

Reliance launches Campa Cola in UAE

New Delhi: Reliance Consumer Products, the FMCG arm of Reliance Industries, on Tuesday announced the launch of its soft drink brand Campa Cola in the UAE at the ongoing Gulfood, the world's largest F&B sourcing event. TNN

Economy may grow 6.4% in Q3: Icra

New Delhi: Icra on Tuesday projected India's GDP to grow 6.4% in the Dec quarter on account of enhanced govt spending amid uneven consumption. The Indian economy grew at 6.7% in April-June, but it slowed to a seven-quarter low of 5.4% in Sept quarter on sluggish govt capital expenditure due to general elections and weak consumption demand.

Icra chief economist Aditi Nayar said the performance also benefitted from high growth in services exports and a turnaround in merchandise exports. AGENCIES

India, US can offer duty cuts, concessions: Goyal

Says Will Open Floodgates Of New Business Opportunities

New Delhi: With India and the US preparing to start negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday said the two countries can offer concessions and duty reductions, as their economies complement each other.

During the recent visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Washington, India and the US announced their commitment to more than double the two-way commerce to $500 billion by 2030 and negotiate the first tranche of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector bilateral trade agreement (BTA) by fall of 2025.

"We complement each other, we can give mutual concessions to each other, tariff reductions and make it easier to export and import between the two countries," he said, adding, "We have started working on different ideas, engaging with different stakeholders within and outside the govt and preparing ourselves for discussions, (which) we hope we will start soon."

> We look at this opportunity as a way to make India more competitive, come out with quality products, look at mutual concessions and attractive trading conditions which will support growth both in America and in India
>
> —PIYUSH GOYAL | COMMERCE & INDUSTRY MINISTER

He added the agreement will open opportunities for the domestic industry to expand trade with the US to $500 billion by 2030. "We look at this opportunity as a way to make India more competitive, come out with quality products, look at mutual concessions and attractive trading conditions which will support growth both in America and in India," Goyal said at an NDTV Profit event.

On reciprocal tariffs, the minister said India's tariffs are there to protect domestic industry from imports from non-market economies.

"What we are working on is for mutual benefit resolving these issues for both our countries... Our situation with the US is different from the situation of many other countries," he said.

Further, he said that there should be no cause of concern to the domestic industry from the trade negotiations with the US, and India should enter these negotiations from a position of strength.

"I do not see any cause of concern...this is a golden opportunity for business and will open floodgates of new business opportunities. My sense is that those who are panicking today will regret tomorrow," he said.

Earlier in the day at a CII event, Goyal said that India and the US are committed to increasing bilateral trade to $500 billion and negotiating a "strong" trade agreement within the next 6-8 months.

Goyal said once his US counterpart takes charge, both countries will discuss the contours of the pact. "...In the next 6-8 months, by establishing a strong trade agreement, we are committed to increasing trade to $500 billion," he said on the sidelines of CII's India-Qatar Business Forum meet.

When asked if the pact would have chapters related to goods, services and investments, he said, "My counterpart has not yet confirmed in the US...After the (confirmation), we will do talks and then only we can decide the way forward." AGENCIES

'India key to achieve 1 billion global users'

Looking At 'Infra Mechanisms' To Meet Govt's Data Localisation Push: Canva Co-founder

Pankaj.Doval@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Canva – one of the world's top graphic design software companies and a key competitor to Adobe – saw as many as 5.3 lakh presentations being made daily in India just in 2024. The usage was equally big when it came to making resumes, social media posts, or even pitch decks.

Cameron Adams, co-founder and chief product officer of Canva, says India will be a critical factor as the Australian company – last valued at around $32 billion – looks to move towards its goal of hitting one billion global users. "India will play a critical role in us getting to a billion users," Adams told **TOI** in an interview. **Excerpts:**

Can you tell us about the journey of Canva so far?

We started in 2012 in Sydney and released our first product the next year, with an idea of empowering the world to design. We realised that design was a superpower that you could give to people that enabled them to do things they couldn't dream of before. It started off slowly and took us a while to build momentum. It grew and grew and grew and we signed up a million people in the first 18 months, and now are at 220 million users that use our product across the world.

How big is the Indian market for you, and what is the adoption of Canva here?

India is one of our most critical markets. It's recently gone from being our fifth most popular market to being the fourth most popular. It's rising up through the ranks and even growing faster than a lot of the world. That's why we've been keen to invest in India over the last few years. The investment that we put into the team and products here pays dividends.

> India is one of our most critical markets. It's recently gone from being our fifth most popular market to being the fourth most popular... We've seen high double-digit growth in India, and it is one of our fastest-growing markets globally
>
> —CAMERON ADAMS | CANVA CO-FOUNDER

The draft rules for digital personal data protection law say that govt can put restrictions on transfer of certain class of personal data outside India. Does this concern you?

It doesn't particularly concern me about India because this is a pattern that we're seeing around the world. You're increasingly seeing countries and regions like Europe bringing in their own data protection laws and requiring data sovereignty. So, creating the systems where we can do that globally is actually a focus of one of our teams. I don't think it's a problem in India, specifically because once we've got the right infrastructure that we can spin up, we can do that fairly easily across regions.

Will you look at storing data on local servers here?

We're definitely looking at the infrastructure mechanisms by how we do that, like how we structure our code, how we have our service set up, how we replicate data across regions, etc. Our engineering teams are looking into it... I can't say specifically about India right now, but we're definitely looking at systems that enable that in different regions around.

Cognizant hits back, says Infy deflecting attention

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Bengaluru: After Cognizant's healthcare subsidiary TriZetto initiated legal proceedings against Infosys regarding the misappropriation of trade secrets, along with audit non-compliance, Cognizant's latest court submission alleged that Infosys attempted to deflect focus from core issues.

"Infosys was caught redhanded misappropriating TriZetto trade secrets that Infosys originally accessed through Non-Disclosure and Access Agreements (NDAAs). When confronted, Infosys obfuscated to the maximum extent possible, asking TriZetto to simply trust, based on nothing, that there had been no wrongdoing. When TriZetto refused to take Infosys at its word and demanded an audit of Infosys's use of TriZetto's information, as explicitly permitted under the NDAAs

DISPUTE OVER TRADE SECRETS

for any reason (much less rampant trade secret misappropriation), Infosys refused to comply," the US court filing showed.

TriZetto has petitioned the court to reject Infosys's motion and direct Infosys to submit all documents that it currently withholds.

Cognizant acquired the healthcare tech firm TriZetto for $2.7 billion in 2014. Among its suite of software products are Facets and QNXT, which are sophisticated software products that have simplified the processing of health insurance claims for millions of Americans. Both Facets and QNXT are built upon TriZetto's confidential and trade secret information. Cognizant alleged that Infosys misappropriated TriZetto's trade secrets to create a repository of test cases for Facets, which Infosys markets as its own and utilises to unfairly compete with TriZetto.

An email sent to Infosys and Cognizant regarding the development did not elicit a response by the time of going to the press.

Vedanta gets creditors' approval for demerger

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Anil Agarwal-controlled Vedanta has secured approval from creditors holding 83% of its debt value for its planned demerger, surpassing the minimum requirement of 75% support.

This significant milestone paves the way for Agarwal to divide the mining conglomerate into at least five different businesses and address the debt situation.

The restructuring will enable separate listings of the divided businesses — aluminum, oil & gas, power, steel and semiconductors — potentially enhancing the overall worth of the Vedanta group.

The demerger is expected to draw investors particularly interested in some of the company's newer but riskier businesses such as semiconductors. Vedanta's parent Vedanta Resources will continue as the holding entity. For each Vedanta share owned, investors will receive one share in each new entity.

The demerger scheme, which received board approval in Sept 2023, has obtained No Objection Certificates from BSE and NSE. Initially, Vedanta had proposed a six-way division but later modified it to create five separate entities. Despite obtaining lender approvals previously, Agarwal's earlier attempts to streamline Vedanta's complex financial structure were unsuccessful.

The London-based parent has reduced its debt by over $4 billion during the past two years and plans to clear an additional $3 billion over the next three years. On Tuesday, Vedanta's shares closed at Rs 417 on BSE, rising 0.3%.

Dixon MD seeks smoother nod for Chinese tie-ups

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Electronics goods player Dixon Technologies, which has entered into JV deals with players such as Vivo, has urged the govt to smoothen approvals for Chinese partnerships to ramp up component manufacturing in the country.

"Today China's domestic economy is also going through challenges. They are keen for markets and partnerships and here we are talking about the majority stake staying with India. When you partner with them, you can learn and then improve the technology... Our border countries are at a stage where we can leverage their economic woes," Dixon Technologies MD Atul Lall said at an event here.

Lall said China, which is currently leading in the electronics industry, has learned from other countries in the past and there is no necessity to "reinvent the wheel". He added that collaborations, investments, technology and talent are crucial for building domestic supply chains.

Since the Covid outbreak, govt has put all investments from China under scrutiny and is not allowing companies that have set up shop in India to ramp up investments, prompting several of them to enter into JVs with Indian players.

Dixon has been a major beneficiary, entering into a 51:49 JV with Vivo to make smartphones and other devices. Besides, last June, it entered into a deal with China's HKC to make display modules and for assembly devices. It has also acquired a 50.1% stake in Ismartu India, a subsidiary of China-based Transsion Technology, which makes smartphones for brands such as Tecno, Infinix and Itel.

Several companies are lobbying with the govt to ease restrictions on FDI and visas but the Modi administration has been unrelenting, giving top priority to security. Last year's Economic Survey had made a case for easing FDI curbs but the govt distanced itself from it.

Dixon Technologies' IT hardware manufacturing unit in Chennai for HP and ASUS is expected to be ready by May 2025. Lall said the facility will have a final capacity of around 3.5 million laptops and plans to initiate backward integration by making SSDs, power supplies closures in nine months.

High liquidity costs limit rate cut impact: Axis Bank's Mishra

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The cost of liquidity in India is extraordinarily high, reducing the impact of the repo rate cut that has lowered the cost of funds for existing borrowers but not for new investments, according to Neelkanth Mishra, chief economist at Axis Bank. Mishra said India's trend growth rate is 7%, and the country could achieve this for three out of the four quarters in the next fiscal year.

"Seven percent growth is our trend growth. We get 1% from labour input, 2% from total factor productivity, and 4% from capital formation. The arithmetic is very clear," he said. Mishra was speaking at an Axis Bank press conference.

Mishra noted that while there are headwinds to growth, the relevance of global growth for India has been shrinking over the past decade. He highlighted positive trends, such as the rise of global capability centers and the use of foundational AI models to create business use cases, as significant opportunities for the country.

"If liquidity conditions improve, I'm confident that even if we don't average 7% growth in Q1FY26, the growth in subsequent quarters will be of that magnitude," Mishra said.

Survey: Urban joblessness rate steady at 6.4% in Q3

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The unemployment rate among those in the 15 years and above age group in urban areas held steady at 6.4% compared to the previous quarter but on an annual basis it dipped a tad, the results of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) showed on Tuesday.

The PLFS for the Oct-Dec 2024 quarter showed the unemployment holding steady on a sequential basis but it dipped from 6.5% in Oct-Dec 2023 to 6.4% in Oct-Dec 2024.

The joblessness rate among males inched up slightly at 5.8% during the three month period compared with 5.7% in the July-Sept quarter. Compared to the Oct-Dec 2023 period, it held steady at 5.8% level. Among females, the unemployment rate dipped marginally from 8.4% in July-Sept period to 8.1% in Oct-Dec 2024. In Oct-Dec last year the rate was 8.6%.

STATUS QUO

Joblessness rate holds steady in Oct-Dec 2024 (rate in %)

Period	Male	Female	Persons
Oct-Dec 2023	5.8	8.6	6.5
Jan-Mar	6.1	8.5	6.7
Apr-Jun 2024	5.8	9	6.6
July-Sept	5.7	8.4	6.4
Oct-Dec	5.8	8.1	6.4

Source: MOSPI

Jobs and wages have been at the centre of policy debates. Officials say there is a need to generate an average of about 78.5 lakh jobs annually until 2030 in the non-farm sector to deal with rising workforce. The labour force participation rate rose to 50.4% in Oct-Dec period compared to 49.9% in Oct-Dec 2023, but on a sequential basis, it held steady at the 50.4% recorded in July-Sept quarter.

MPIDC
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INDUSTRY PARTNER
CII
Confederation of Indian Industry
Madhya Pradesh
Export Policy 2025
Promoting Export Capacity Building
Infinite Possibilities
For the first time, export companies to receive reimbursement of registration-cum-membership certification up to ₹ 10 lakh and export insurance premium up to ₹ 20 lakh
Assistance up to 10% on export turnover and up to 75% on export marketing
Reimbursement of up to 50% on infrastructure development and up to 25% on export infrastructure expenditure
Reimbursement of up to 50% on green industrialization and up to 50% on export green document expenditure
Up to 25% assistance to Common Processing Facility
Narendra Modi, Prime Minister
Dr. Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister
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Prejudice is a great time saver. You can form opinions without having to get the facts

– EB WHITE

India, Teach Thyself

What Odisha tragedy says to foreign students here

Nepalese student Prakriti Lamsal's death by suicide at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology in Bhubaneswar is tragic; and a wake-up call for GOI, which wants India to become an education hub for developing countries. KIIT seemingly disregarded Prakriti's complaints of harassment against an Indian student. Later, without investigation, it labelled her suicide a result of heart-break. When hundreds of other Nepalese students protested, they were bundled out to Cuttack railway station and told to stay away. In one viral video, two KIIT staff are heard shouting at them that the institute's expenditure on tuition and board exceeds Nepal's budget. Such arrogance! By this logic, Indians in US should shop at Walmart with a sense of gratitude because the retail giant's revenue exceeds GOI's budget.

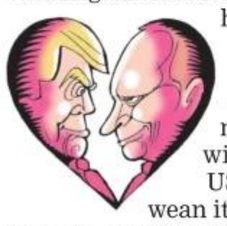
The case snowballed into a diplomatic issue. Nepal's PM Oli raised it, Indian embassy in Nepal gave an assurance, Odisha govt pulled levers, the institute apologised, urging evicted students to return. It also "removed from service" the two loudmouth officers. In 2013, many had scoffed when a global survey claimed India was among the most racist countries. But ask students from Africa who have suffered racial abuse here. The Jan night in 2014 when a Delhi minister led a 'raid' against Nigerians is a stain that won't wash. Our record on people from our own Northeast isn't great either. Surveys showed how they were stigmatised as 'Chinese' during the pandemic. Now, this case has blown up in Nepal, biggest source of foreign students to India – 13,126 of 46,878 in 2021-22. Oli anyway has been showing off his China tilt. India wants 500,000 foreign students a year by 2047, but is stuck at the 50,000 mark. Accepting what's wrong might be a good place to start.

Geopoliticking

Trump-Putin chats aren't bad news for India

Yesterday's meeting between high-level American and Russian delegates in Saudi Arabia certainly churned the geopolitical pot. First, it's sent European nations into a huddle, worried that the Trans-Atlantic Alliance's fraying and a deal on Ukraine would be reached without them at the table. This many of them interpret as being thrown to the Russian wolf.

Second, it's put US aid for Ukraine under a big cloud. Zelenskyy, unsurprisingly, has said that he won't accept any deals between Washington and Moscow about Ukraine made without Kyiv. He's still hanging around in the region, travelling to UAE and Türkiye but has postponed his Saudi Arabia visit. To that extent, Trump has moved the needle on the Ukraine war. Everyone is at least discussing new ideas. Russia reportedly has now said it's fine with Ukraine joining EU but not Nato.



US clearly wants to reset ties with Russia and wean it away from the China-North Korea-Iran camp. That in itself may not be a bad strategy. The Beijing-Moscow compact is a big headache for India too. But will it work? China and North Korea have invested too much in Russia over the course of the war. However, Moscow may be open to hedging. Note that it has not blocked sale of Indian BrahMos cruise missiles to Philippines and now potentially to Vietnam, two countries locked in maritime disputes with China. There are no acceptable solutions yet. But parts are moving to find some.

'Most welcome recast'

Wipro founder chairman writes on GOI's new tax code

Azim Premji

I have had the rare opportunity to have studied and experienced the workings and impact of the Income Tax Act, 1922, and its 1961 successor. When the proposed New Income Tax Bill, 2025 becomes law this year and later comes into force, I'll have had the distinct, possibly a *unique*, privilege of having lived through all three income tax acts being in operation – a tax trifecta – in independent India.

India's tax regimes have had everything – 98% tax rates, but also smart tax incentives for information and digital technologies, tax refunds withheld for years, but also instant grants of largest number of refunds upon filing tax returns.

Over the last 10 years, govt must be credited with bringing about a paradigm shift, both in terms of tax structure and administrative efficiency – prefilled returns, mandatory e-filing, quicker refunds, faceless assessments. Yet dispute resolution isn't always speedy.

Having lived through two previous iterations of I-T legislation, I can relate to the troublesome questions of most common taxpayers – why can't the tax code be simple, why is tax practitioner required for the most basic tax implications, why does a tax return form require the taxpayer to check out so many irrelevant boxes, why should tax litigations remain unresolved for long?

So, a recast of the tax code was most welcome. The new Bill signals a clear intent to modernise and simplify the tax code, reducing the sense of intimidation often associated with tax matters. Several key provisions demonstrate a drive towards simplification. Replacing terms like "Previous Year" and "Assessment Year" with the more intuitive "tax year" and using easier-to-absorb formats like tables, formulae, and schedules give a lucid presentation to the code. This focus on plain language and comprehensible legal expressions aims to demystify tax jargons and empower taxpayers. The "trust first, scrutinise later" doctrine is embedded in the Bill.

While the Bill addresses concerns over interpretation-based litigations, the role of robust administrative provisions is crucial. Exploring and institutionalising alternatives to ensure speedier dispute resolution will reduce tax disputes, contributing significantly to ease of doing business.

The Bill also provides an opportunity to align Indian taxation system with evolving international taxation concepts, including the increasingly key area of profit allocation among participating countries in cross-border transactions. This will mean greater simplicity, transparency, and fairness.

Given my close association with philanthropy, the simplification of provisions relating to non-profit organisations (NPOs) has not missed my attention. The Bill provides much-needed clarity on permissible commercial activities of registered NPOs, a critical area previously lacking a precise definition. This clarity will help NPOs operate with greater certainty and avoid legal challenges. The inclusion of permitted investment modes in the schedule is a helpful step, but a mechanism for adding new entries without requiring constant parliamentary amendment may also be considered. This will allow for greater flexibility and responsiveness to evolving financial instruments and market conditions.

The meticulous efforts invested in preparation of the Bill are commendable, and govt deserves recognition for its commitment to reforming this vital area of public policy. The intended implementation date of the Bill is April 1, 2026, which provides ample time for public consultations, expert deliberations, and stakeholder feedback.

While govt has already engaged meaningfully with stakeholders during the drafting process, continued engagement is vital. This will help identify and address any remaining ambiguities, inconsistencies, or unintended consequences. Such an inclusive approach will ensure a smoother transition and maximise the effectiveness of the Bill. I wish GOI all success in the smooth passage of the Bill.

Yalta To Riyadh: Might's Again Right

Post-WWII, US & USSR divvied up Europe without consulting it. That's the approach Trump's US & Putin's Russia are taking in their Saudi bilateral. China's ok with that. India should be wary

Andreas Umland

Columnist based in Stockholm

Washington-Moscow negotiations that started yesterday in Saudi Arabia are odd, to say the least. These offline discussions in Riyadh are high-level – foreign ministers and presidential advisers of US and Russia are involved. These talks focus on Ukraine's fate, and the future of European security. Yet, neither Ukraine nor EU or any of its member states are present at, or in any other way are part of these so far purely bilateral face-to-face meetings.

There are other oddities. A Ukrainian delegation led by First Deputy PM Yulia Svyrydenko met with Saudi officials in Riyadh on Feb 16 to prepare for a Zelenskyy visit. Zelenskyy's on a planned visit to UAE and Türkiye but has put off his Saudi Arabia tour. Ukraine's president and govt officials are thus close-by to American and Russian negotiators in Riyadh – but not *in* Riyadh.

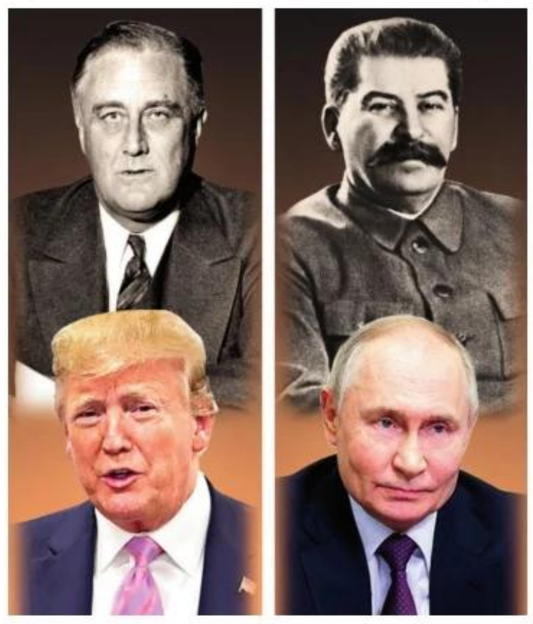
The absurdity of this situation illustrates the depth of change the international order is going through. Putin's and Trump's approach to Ukraine aren't manifestations of a new 'multipolar world'. They do not display the pluralism required by a multipolar approach to international security. Instead, they signal a return to principles of the Yalta System established in WWII's last months. The Yalta talks were held exactly 80 years ago in Feb 1945.

The idea of 'might is right' that stood strong in 1945 seems to be back again – driving a division of continental Europe by outside powers. During WWII, in talks at Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam, Washington handed Moscow far more European territory than Russia had received before WWII from Germany.

In the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact between USSR and Nazi Germany, Stalin had secured from Hitler Soviet control over some east-central European nations including Poland and Baltic states. Yet, in 1945, US left all of eastern Europe to Soviet imperialism, enforced Russification, state terrorism, and colonial exploitation.

Stalin made his disrespect for principles of 1945's new international system evident when he made Soviet 'republics' of Ukraine and Belarus founding members of UN.

After the German empire's collapse in 1945, other European empires also lost their colonies over the decades. In 1989-1991, finally, or so it appeared, Russian empire, in its Soviet avatar, came to its end. In 1991, nations seeking to break free from Soviet control declared their independence. Following this, the republics within the Soviet Union's "inner empire" also gained formal independence.



But Moscow's post-1945 mockery of international law and multipolarity continued on a smaller scale. Without due process of application and accession to UN – as Serbia did after Yugoslavia broke up – Russia became a permanent member of UNSC, whose statute still mentions only USSR.

After 1991, both US and western Europe adopted a Russia First policy, in which interests of Russia's former colonies stood secondary to those of Moscow. This odd policy – that even included a temporary enlargement of G7 to make a G8 group with Russia – confirmed, in Kremlin's interpretation, Moscow's continued status as a world and imperial power.

The most scandalous expression of the West's self-defeating approach was the (eventually abortive) Russo-German Nord Stream-2 gas pipeline project launched after, and despite, Russia's annexation of Crimea and covert military intervention in eastern Ukraine in 2014.

Germany and other west European countries finally reversed their earlier Russia First approach in 2022. Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia – although all suffer from illegal partial occupation by Russia – became candidates for EU membership.

US is reversing both its earlier liberationist approach to eastern Europe and its active help for Russia's former colonies who desire to exit Moscow's neo-imperial orbit.

At least rhetorically, the Trump administration seems to be returning to a Yalta type of approach, in which voices of smaller states are given less attention. An approach in which Ukraine's participation in negotiations about its fate is not necessary.

Global South countries, like India, need to be wary of this trend in US foreign policy. Trump may be signalling how he'll treat countries he deems less important or those that don't directly serve US interests. This is not multipolarity – Trump has already shown his disdain for Brics. It is about the powerful doing what they please. China, therefore, holds greater leverage in this scheme.

Further, the bilateral over Ukraine is happening in contradiction to Washington's assurances to Kyiv in 1994, in the now infamous Budapest Memorandum in which Ukraine gave up its nuclear weapons. Trump's approach to Ukraine is also in conflict with the 2008 Bucharest Nato declaration in which President Bush scoped out the possibility of Nato membership for Ukraine and Georgia. Time will show how far this American reversal of course will go.

The writer is an analyst at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs

Is 'immoral' at all illegal? Do we know our young? Who decides what's acceptable?

Why They Talk Dirty

Rajat Mitra

YouTuber Beer Biceps' comments on the India's Got Latent show have touched a raw nerve. They're being discussed in university classrooms, dinner parties, and gatherings across India. While the Supreme Court yesterday gave him interim protection from arrest for the offence of obscenity, the question remains, what is freedom of speech? And who should set its boundaries?

Irving Wallace once remarked that in a free society, no one should come between an idea and its audience. If that happens, society is no longer free. It is the audience who is the ultimate judge, who must decide what to do with an idea or behaviour, and thus decide the boundary for what is acceptable and what must be rejected in society. A large number of people, including young people, have said that Ranveer Allahbadia's language does not represent them, which tells us that they have rejected it.

The next question is, why does such explicitly sexual talk even happen in the first place? The answer perhaps lies in the fact that psychologically, we are further shifting into an age of moral relativism, which has crept in silently.

In therapy sessions with Gen Z clients, psychologists often notice a rejection of the absolutism of their elders and an acceptance of moral relativism found in the statement, "If it feels okay, if it feels good, it must be okay!" This is a common refrain. The earlier era in which things were seen in black and white has now been swept away. In the current view, even the most private thoughts and fantasies can be discussed threadbare in the open.

It was a generation ago that psychologists began to notice this trend. Revealing secrets became fashionable, something to boast about. Holding secrets became passé, seen as causing psychological disorders. Bringing innermost thoughts, fantastical lives, out in the open became the sign of liberation.

In this view, discussing even the most obscene and bizarre idea in public, and laughing about it, is a sign of freedom from the elder generations. Allowed to continue, the trend has led to deep scars and psychological trauma for many, but this has not stopped the ones who consider the new freedom of expression exciting.

Indian society today stands at an inflection point where its intellectuals, families, and institutions need to actively debate such issues without hunting, shaming, mocking, or casting blame on anybody. It is a national issue and only a national conversation will make us a rule-of-law society capable of withstanding a crisis of values.

Freedom plus internet means our private space, innermost and sacrosanct, will continue to get invaded. Instead of going into denial and becoming defensive as to how this could be happening to us, we need to understand that with the digital era rewiring physical space and relationships, this may not be easy to prevent, and we must be ready for dialogue so that we do not get polarised into taking extreme positions.

RANVEER ALLAHBADIA CASE

Another question is, do we truly know the younger generation? Our shocks, our denials, our advocacy of extreme responses today, suggest we do not. We need to understand what drives them, what they value. It is digital space that's their most intimate companion, a secondary family, which in many cases even replaces the first. That is, the power of digital space to shape their psyche has begun to exceed that of biological parents and teachers.

A student, a young woman, told me that she has grown up holding her parents as next to gods, and Allahbadia's words hurt her at the very core of her being. For all like her, a healing touch is the need of the hour. Understanding that we have the power to transcend such language and speech is what will help us overcome the turmoil and societal division we are currently facing.

Professor of psychology

Bad Taste Isn't Crime

Ashwin Sanghi

First, a few disclaimers. Your correspondent was a guest on a Ranveer Allahbadia podcast. He's never watched Samay Raina's India's Got Latent. And, yes, Ranveer's so-called joke was disgusting and unfunny. But did his words incite hate or call for violence? No.

Were they in poor taste? Absolutely. So are movies like *Grand Masti*, OTT content like *Gandii Baat*, TV shows like *Bigg Boss*, some Bhojpuri songs and Bollywood numbers. Banning all these in the internet age would be to impose a Chinese-style firewall.

Your correspondent has often spoken of Bharat's civilisation and Sanatan Dharm as means to pluralism that doesn't comprehend the concept of blasphemy. It thrives on intellectual freedom, debate and reinterpretation. It embraces multiple philosophies – dvait, advait, nastik. Gods can be mocked. Sage Bhrigu kicked Vishnu on his chest in Srimad Bhagavatam with no adverse consequences. The Charvak philosophical tradition rejects existence of gods and scorns Vedic rituals. Rigved's nasadiya sukt questions the universe's origins, the creator's role, whether gods know the 'ultimate truth'. Debate, doubt, irreverence are never criminalised. Gods are questioned, cursed, yet they embrace discourse, not punishment.

Temples in Khajuraho, Konark or Modhera depict erotic imagery including what may appear as bestiality and group intimacy. Our ancestors were broad-minded enough to interpret these depictions within the philosophical context of kama (desire) and moksh (transcendence). Tantra that influenced many such depictions believed in understanding all aspects of life, including sexuality, as part of evolution. Today, many of these would be viewed as bordering on pornography. Should we criminalise them?

Vatsyayan's Kamasutra is a sophisticated discourse rooted in a cultural ethos that embraced desire as essential to life, viewing kama as one of four goals of existence, alongside dharm (duty), arth (wealth), and liberation (moksh). Kamasutra reflects a time when society engaged with openness and intellect, not repression or shame. But modern India gets swept up by moral indignation, and increasingly favours outrage over understanding, censorship over dialogue, and penalty over rebuke.

Far from moral condemnation, Chanakya's Arthashastra takes a pragmatic approach to prostitution, treating courtesans as integral to economy. Prostitution was state regulated, provided with protection and taxes levied on earnings. Present-day India stigmatises prostitution. A civilisation that once approached matters with realism has become a society obsessed with appearances.

Should there be an age limit for consuming explicit content online? Absolutely. Should there be a certification system for content? Probably, by an industry body. Should platforms be penalised for violations? Sure. Does one need to watch Samay Raina's show? Not at all. But does a YouTube sensation deserve arrest for a non-joke? A resounding no. There is a fundamental difference between immoral and illegal. Immorality can be handled by rebuke – social media outrage, withdrawal of sponsorships and subscribers. Illegality demands state intervention.

When we start criminalising bad jokes, crude lyrics, or tasteless cinema, we allow the loudest mob to dictate what's an offence. Today, it's a comedian's ill-conceived punchline. Tomorrow it could be a historian's analysis, a journalist's turn of phrase. In a democracy, right to take offence exists but so does the right to ignore, critique, or counter, just like Hindu traditions of debate. If our ancestors could thrive on tarka (reasoning), swatantrata (intellectual freedom), and samvad (debate), why turn every instance of poor taste into a criminal offence?

Do we want to go down the road that trivialises the law and empowers state to police thought, speech and artistic expression? If history has shown us anything, it is this – once such powers are normalised, they're rarely rolled back.

Author of mythological fictions

Calvin & Hobbes

NOWADAYS, ADS DON'T JUST SELL A PRODUCT. THEY SELL AN ATTITUDE! LOOK AT THIS ONE!
HERE'S A COOL GUY SAYING NOBODY TELLS HIM WHAT TO DO. HE DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS AND HE BUYS THIS PRODUCT AS A REFLECTION OF THAT INDEPENDENCE.
SO BASICALLY, THIS MAVERICK IS URGING EVERYONE TO EXPRESS HIS INDIVIDUALITY THROUGH CONFORMITY IN BRAND-NAME SELECTION?
WELL, IT SOUNDED MORE DEFIANT THE WAY HE SAID IT.
MM.
© 1993 Watterson/Distributed by Universal Uclick
10-14

Sacredspace

The thing, when you're down two sets to love, is to stay calm, even though it's hard, because people are freaking out, people are worried for you.

Rafael Nadal

Mentally Repeating Calming Word Stills The Mind

Sant Rajinder Singh

We can only excel at something we are motivated to do in life. It is the same in the spiritual arena. If we are motivated, with an internal passion and zeal to meditate, then we will be successful in devoting regular time to it. How can we become motivated? We need to know the importance of meditation, experience its benefits, and understand the goal before us.

One of the key impediments to meditation is our mind. The mind is always trying to derail us. If we can convince the mind of the benefits it can reap from meditation, it will become a helpful ally in our goal. The benefits of meditation are manifold. From mental clarity and astuteness to enhanced focus, concentration, and efficiency, meditation can help us excel in all spheres of life. It can also help us physically by enhancing the body's ability to rest, rejuvenate, and fight infection and disease. Above all, meditation brings us spiritual benefits, helping us achieve life's most important goal – oneness with God.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Second, we need to ensure we are meditating accurately in order to get the right results when we meditate. Meditation does not require any difficult postures. The technique involves sitting in a pose most comfortable, one in which you can sit the longest without moving, and that is not conducive to falling asleep. Any movement keeps the attention on the body. No part of the body should be touching anyone since if one moves, it will disturb the other. Mentally repeat a calming word, Simran, to still the mind.

Next, after learning the accurate meditation technique, we need to practise daily to excel. When we devote time every day to a task, we can excel in it. When we keep our eye on the prize, which is experiencing the divine Power within, all distractions fade, and we remain focused on our destination, navigating around the distractions that present themselves. This comes with practice and direct experience.

The most important factor on the path towards the Divine is faith. If we meditate daily with full faith, knowing that it is not us but God who is in control, and if we surrender to His will each time, the Almighty will give us what is best for us, and step by step, He will lead us Home.

"WE SHOULD ALL ENJOY THE CHAMPIONS TROPHY AS IT IS AFTER A LONG TIME (THAT) WE'RE HOSTING SUCH A BIG EVENT IN PAKISTAN. WE'VE SPENT 10 YEARS PLAYING OUR HOME MATCHES ELSEWHERE."

MOHAMMAD RIZWAN
PAKISTAN CAPTAIN

A QUESTION OF RELEVANCE

ALL EYES WILL BE ON PAKISTAN'S RETURN AS A VIABLE VENUE WHILE THE ODI FORMAT ITSELF REMAINS UNDER THE SCANNER

Hindol.Basu@timesofindia.com

As the sun rises over the bustling streets of Karachi on Wednesday, cricket enthusiasts around the globe will hold their breath in anticipation. The ICC Champions Trophy makes its return after an eight-year hiatus, bringing together the sport's top eight teams in a three-week cricketing carnival.

This time, the stakes are even higher — Pakistan will host an elite ICC competition for the first time since the 1996 ODI World Cup. A nation that has long yearned to host premier ICC events will finally get its moment in the spotlight.

There is an important caveat though – India's matches are going to be played in Dubai, UAE, which has been made an additional venue besides Lahore, Karachi and Rawalpindi. The hybrid model introduced due to India's refusal to travel to Pakistan adds complexity to the whole affair.

Pakistan, incidentally, are the defending champions, having beaten India in the final of the previous edition in 2017.

The tournament features eight teams – divided into two groups of four – with Group A comprising Pakistan, India, New Zealand and Bangladesh. Group B constitutes Australia, South Africa, Afghanistan and England. The tournament kicks off with Pakistan and New Zealand clashing at Karachi's National Stadium on Wednesday.

Notably, two former champions, Sri Lanka and West Indies, failed to qualify. This edition, interestingly, also marks Afghanistan's first appearance in the Champions Trophy.

Tough format

The format adds another layer of intrigue. With just three group games per team, there's no time to ease into the competition. Every match carries massive significance, and net run-rate could prove crucial. The top two teams from each group will advance to the semifinals on March 4 and 5. The final is scheduled for March 9 at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium but may shift to Dubai if India qualify.

What makes the Champions Trophy particularly special is its unforgiving nature. Unlike the ODI World Cup, where teams can recover from early setbacks, here every match feels like a knockout game. One rain-affected match, one brilliant individual performance or one crucial toss decision could determine a team's fate. It's this knife-edge nature that makes every match compelling viewing.

Conditions are key

The conditions in Pakistan and UAE add another layer of intrigue to the tournament. February temperatures should be relatively comfortable but evening dew could potentially impact day-night encounters. The pitches in both Pakistan and UAE are traditionally known for their batting-friendly nature, but spinners are likely to get assistance too. Teams will need to be tactically flexible, ready to adapt their strategies as conditions evolve.

Rivalry rekindled

There are rivalries, and then there is the India-vs-Pakistan clash, cricket's marquee contest. Set to take place in Dubai due to political considerations, this clash on Feb 23 remains the most anticipated fixture of the tournament. The stakes are high for both teams as fans from both sides are expected to flock to the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

While it's going to be yet another battle between India's batting and Pakistan's bowling, the absence of Jasprit Bumrah is going to play a crucial factor in which way the eventual result pans out.

Last of 'RoKo' in ODIs?

All eyes will be on two of cricket's biggest stars, Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma. With both players nearing the twilight of their careers, this tournament may very well mark their last appearance together on the ODI stage.

The Champions Trophy presents a golden opportunity for the duo to sign off in style. Winning an ICC ODI trophy has been a long-cherished dream for both, given India's near misses in the last decade. A title triumph would not only add another feather to their cap but also serve as the perfect farewell to a format they have dominated for so long.

Long list of absentees

Australia are perhaps the most affected team, missing their entire frontline pace attack. Captain Pat Cummins is sidelined with an ankle injury while Josh Hazlewood is managing ongoing hip issues. Mitchell Starc has withdrawn from the tournament for personal reasons and allrounder Mitchell Marsh is out due to a lower-back injury. The sudden retirement of Marcus Stoinis has further depleted their squad.

India will also feel the absence of star bowler Bumrah, who is recovering from a lower back injury. South Africa face similar woes, with key pacers like Anrich Nortje and Gerald Coetzee ruled out due to injuries. New Zealand pacers Lockie Ferguson and Ben Sears also have been ruled out.

Other teams like Pakistan, England and Afghanistan are not immune to these injury woes either. The cumulative effect of these injuries could potentially dampen the spirit of the tournament.

Do ODIs have a future?

The tournament will also serve as a fascinating barometer of where ODI cricket stands in 2025. In an era increasingly dominated by T20 cricket and with Test cricket maintaining its traditional appeal, what the 50-over format brings to the plate would be interesting to see.

Several tactical trends are likely to emerge during the tournament. The middle overs, often considered the less dramatic phase of ODI cricket, might prove decisive.

The contenders

Predicting a winner is no easy feat. However, home advantage makes Pakistan a strong contender, while Australia's penchant for ICC trophies means they can never be ignored. India and South Africa's depth in all departments make both teams formidable. Afghanistan have shed their underdogs label and held their own in the last two ICC events. With spin likely to play an important role, Afghanistan are surely the dark horses for a semifinal spot.

ICC'S CHAMPIONS TROPHY: RESULTS SUMMARY

Season	Venue	M	Winner	Runners-up
1998-99	Bangladesh	8	South Africa	West Indies
2000-01	Kenya	10	New Zealand	India
2002-03	Sri Lanka	16	India & Sri Lanka shared the trophy	
2004	England	15	West Indies	England
2006-07	India	21	Australia	West Indies
2009-10	South Africa	15	Australia	New Zealand
2013	England	15	India	England
2017	England	15	Pakistan	India

DUBAI DATE: India's head coach Gautam Gambhir with captain Rohit Sharma during a nets session ahead of Thursday's game vs Bangladesh

ANI

AFP

LUNG OPENER: Babar Azam bats in the Karachi nets on match eve

Foot injury rules out Ferguson, Ravindra also doubtful for Kiwis

Karachi: New Zealand fast bowler Lockie Ferguson was ruled out of the Champions Trophy with a foot injury on Tuesday in a major blow for the Black Caps on the eve of the tournament opener against hosts Pakistan. Allrounder Rachin Ravindra could also miss the Group A match as he continues to recover from a blow to his forehead, sustained during a tri-series match in Lahore earlier this month.

Ferguson, who suffered a hamstring injury in a T20 tournament in the UAE earlier this month, felt pain in his right foot after bowling in Sunday's warmup match against Afghanistan. An initial medical assessment suggested the 33-year-old would not be fit to take part in the entire tournament, New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said. New Zealand have decided to send him home and bring in Canterbury Kings fast bowler Kyle Jamieson, who will not reach Pakistan in time for Wednesday's match.

"We're really disappointed for Lockie," head coach Gary Stead said. "Lockie is a key part of the bowling group and brings a lot of major tournament experience and we know how much he was looking forward to representing New Zealand at another major event."

Jamieson returned to domestic cricket in Dec after 10 months on the sidelines due to a stress fracture in his back. "Kyle brings plenty of pace and extra bounce which will suit the conditions here in Pakistan," Stead said of Jamieson, who will be available for New Zealand's second Group A game against Bangladesh on Feb. 24.

Though on a high after winning the tri-series in Pakistan after beating the hosts in Friday's final, New Zealand are also without quick Ben Sears due to a hamstring injury.

Pakistan captain Mohammad Rizwan confirmed Babar Azam would continue to open the innings, like he did in the recent tri-series. "Babar is our most solid player. He will bat at the top," Rizwan told reporters. New Zealand beat Pakistan twice in the recent tri-series but Rizwan was hopeful they would be third time lucky. "We have identified our shortcomings. We are confident we will not repeat our mistakes," he said. REUTERS

PAK VS NZ PREVIEW

FACE-OFF

PAK vs NZ

TV TIME: 2.30 PM
STAR SPORTS
JIOHOTSTAR

HEAD TO HEAD

PAK	NZ
61	53

LAST FIVE MATCHES

PAK	L	W	L	W	W
NZ	W	W	W	L	W

VENUE: KARACHI

ODDS	
PAK	NZ
6/10	6/4

WEATHER

Typical subcontinental weather—hot & humid to start with before settling down to 26 degrees under lights.

3 New Zealand have won all three fixtures vs Pakistan in the Champions Trophy—by four wickets in Nairobi on Oct 11, 2000, by 51 runs in Mohali on Oct 25, 2006 and by 5 wickets in Johannesburg on Oct 3, 2009.

2 Babar Azam (6019 at 55.73 in 126 matches) and Virat Kohli (13963 at 57.93 in 297 matches) are the only two batters to have scored 6000-plus runs at an average of 55-plus in ODIs.

5 Catches needed by Mohammad Rizwan to reach the 100-catches mark in ODIs. —**Stats:** Rajesh Kumar

CT LANDMARKS

- The **2017 Champions Trophy recorded a run-rate of 5.54, the highest in any edition** of the tournament. The next best is 5.29 in the inaugural edition in 1998-99.
- Rohit Sharma (91), Shikhar Dhawan (68), Virat Kohli (81 not out) & Yuvraj Singh (53) registered scores of 50-plus for India vs Pakistan in Birmingham on June 4, 2017 — the **only instance of all top four batters scoring 50-plus** in the same innings in the ICC Champions Trophy.
- Runs per wicket (37.45) in the 2017 CT edition, the highest in the ICC Champions Trophy. The next best is 33.88 in the 1998-99 edition.
- **10 hundreds each were scored in the 2002-03 and 2017 editions, the most in a single edition**, while only 3 centuries were registered in 2013, the least in the tournament's history.
- 52 innings of 50-plus (10 centuries & 42 fifties) were recorded in the 2017 edition, the most in any edition of the Champions Trophy. The next best is 44 (7 hundreds & 37 fifties) in the 2006-07 edition.
- **113 sixes were hit in 2017, the most in any edition** and the first instance of 100-plus sixes in any edition of the tournament.
- Three 5-wicket hauls were taken In the 2004-05 edition — 5/11 by Shahid Afridi for Pakistan vs Kenya in Birmingham on Sept 14, 2004, 5/29 by Mervyn Dhillon for West Indies vs Bangladesh in Southampton on Sept 15, 2004 and 5/36 by Jacob Oram for New Zealand vs USA at the Oval in London on Sept 10, 2004 - the most in any edition.
- **Batting strike rate of 87.95 in 15 matches was recorded in the 2017 event, the best in any edition** of the ICC Champions Trophy.
- An impressive strike rate of 36 was recorded by the bowlers while claiming 194 wickets at 29.97 in 15 matches in the 2013 competition, the best in any edition.
- In the 2017 edition, spinners captured just one wicket in 18 overs in the first Powerplay at an economy rate of 5.38, compared to 30 at an economy rate of 4.82 by the pacers.
- **Teams batting first registered a 4-9 win-loss record in the 2017 Champions Trophy, the worst** among all eight editions of the competition.

BOWLING COACH MORNE MORKEL RETURNS HOME DUE TO FAMILY EMERGENCY

Dubai: India's bowling coach Morne Morkel has left for his home in South Africa due to a family emergency. Morkel, who was appointed for the job in Sept last year, travelled to Dubai with the Indian team on Saturday and also attended the side's first practice session on Wednesday.

The 40-year-old former South African pacer was, however, not around for the Indian team's second practice session on Monday. The development comes just as India are gearing up to began their campaign with a match against Bangladesh at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Thursday. India's bowling attack comprises three specialist pacers and one fast-bowling allrounder. PTI

PONTING PICKS ARSHDEEP OVER HARSHIT RANA

Dubai: Australian great Ricky Ponting will pick Arshdeep Singh over Harshit Rana for India's Champions Trophy opener against Bangladesh here on Thursday, with the Rohit Sharma-led side hoping to fill the huge void left by injured pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah. Rana has done all right in the chances he has got ahead of the ICC event but Ponting feels the left-arm pacer Arshdeep is better suited to bowl in all phases of the 50-over game.

"I'd go with the left-armer and I'd go with Arshdeep," Ponting said on the ICC Review. "We know how good he's been in T20 cricket. He probably provides a similar skill set to what Bumrah does with new ball and death overs and that's what India will miss. That's taking nothing away from Harshit Rana because I think he has got a lot of talent and we know what he can do with the new ball, but I don't think his death skills are as good as what Arshdeep Singh's are. Just that left-arm variation is useful," he added.

Naqvi assures event will be hosted in grand manner, promises top security

Karachi: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi assured on Tuesday that the Champions Trophy would be hosted in a manner that would bring pride and joy to the people of Pakistan. Speaking after a high-level meeting of the PCB in Lahore, Naqvi said, "We're ready to host the event in a successful manner and also provide the best experience and facilities to spectators." He said the tournament was a platform to showcase to the world that all teams should feel welcome to play in Pakistan.

Minimum 36 cameras for games, 360-degree virtual field model: ICC

Dubai: A minimum of 36 cameras with a host of analytical tools and visual enhancements to elevate the experience for the viewers will be used to broadcast CT matches, the ICC said. "To further enrich the viewing experience, the Quidich Innovation Labs will deliver Field 360°, a virtual field model that illustrates fielding positions and strategies in real-time," the world body added. AGENCIES

Spurious supplements being sold to young athletes on social media

Coaches And Athletes From Rural Areas Main Target Of These Posts

TOI EXCLUSIVE

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Bengaluru: Even as the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) and the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) are expanding the net to curb the proliferation of banned substances among young athletes, and catch dope cheats, a section of people in the sports fraternity are busy spreading the use banned substances through social media, labelling them as legal supplements.

Of late, there has been a rise in social media posts catching the attention of coaches and young athletes, especially from the rural areas. These posts are selling spurious supplements as "essential ingredient for success mixed with long hours of training".

"Many items listed in a recent social media post had Russian labels. Some of these supplements had HGH (human growth hormone) as the main composition, while some others had banned stimulants," a person in the athletics fraternity who read the post told **TOI**.

According to sources, some individuals are blatantly selling these substances online. "The young and talented athletes fall prey to these posts as they view them as a shortcut to success or something that should be part of their training regimen. They are not aware that these contain banned substances on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list."

One of such posts accessed by **TOI** had a list of substances which included HGH, and some had Russian labels. The Russian labels when translated read 'Aspartic acid' and 'Mexidol'. Research says the intake of aspartic acid supplements may cause growth problems in children while mexidol is believed to be similar to drugs on the prohibited list. The cost of an HGH Somatropin injection varies from Rs 1,000 to Rs 20,000 per vial as per prices listed online on Tuesday.

Instagram

ALARMING: One of such posts had a list of substances including HGH, and some had Russian labels. The labels when translated read 'Aspartic acid' and 'Mexidol'. Research says the aspartic acid supplements may cause growth problems in children while mexidol is believed to be similar to drugs on the prohibited list

"Those who fall prey to these posts are youngsters who are coaxed into buying these to win medals at national meets, which could later get them govt jobs under the sports quota. There are allegations that some national-level coaches and former athletes are part of this flourishing trade," a worried parent said, stressing the need to increase policing, awareness and strict action against those found guilty. "Last year, an athlete who was later banned for doping, had posted images of Russian injections that are not licensed for sale in India on his social media handle."

Worried by the alarming rise in the spread of the banned substances, AFI had decided last month to make coach registration mandatory to tackle doping. The move was widely welcomed and found a mention by Interpol in its bi-weekly bulletin among good practices around the world on the measures taken for integrity in sport.

Rybakina makes it look easy in Round 2

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Dubai: Elena Rybakina's tennis is so smooth it gives satin a fair run. The 25-year-old rips aces almost casually and steps in and hits through the court, making it all look effortless.

"It doesn't come easy at all," the world No. 7 said. "I'm trying to work on different things on the court. If it looks easy, I'm happy. But definitely it's not an easy sport. I always play aggressive, today a lot of things went my way."

The Kazakh, 6 ft in her tennis shoes, was in and out of the court in 72 minutes, of which 10 minutes were lost to a drizzle. She was through 6-3, 6-2 against the Japanese Moyuka Uchijima in the second round of the Dubai Duty Free tennis championships.

On a rain hit day at the WTA 1000 event, where world No. 4 Jasmine Paolini's match against German Eva Lys was paused at match point 6-2, 6-5 (30-40) for five hours – before the players returned on court and the Italian closed on the first point – Rybakina's play provided the sunshine. She had seven aces and won 26 of 32 points on her first serve.

It might be because the 23-year-old Japanese' play matched well with Rybakina, who was meeting the ball in her comfort zone and striking freely. The small crowd in attendance on an outside court recognized they were watching a special talent and got behind the Kazakh, who looked a cut above, even in tricky conditions.

RYBAKINA

Next up for Rybakina, in the round-of-16 is Spain's Paula Badosa, the other player to dodge the rain on the day. Badosa, back in the top-10, leads the head-to-head 4-3, but the Moscow-born Rybakina has won their last two meetings.

Rybakina, cheered on by her new coach Davide Sanguinetti, whose calls of 'come on Elena, let's go' was a constant during the hour-long affair, didn't need any encouragement.

Rybakina, caught in a crossfire with the WTA, who investigated and suspended her coach Stefano Vukov and suspended the 37-year-old Croat for a year for the abusive nature of his conduct.

"It's not easy of course," Rybakina said of her situation. "(I'm) very disappointed (with) the way it's been handled, just the outcome. But anyway, I need to focus on my tournament. It's what I'm trying to do. Hopefully I can just keep on playing, keep on winning."

Rybakina, who maintains she hasn't been mistreated by Vukov, despite new information emerging in The Athletic which noted that Vukov's behaviour prompted the Wimbledon champion's inner circle to approach the WTA as they feared for the safety of the player.

While the top players – world No.1 Aryna Sabalenka, Coco Gauff and Jessica Pegula – have refused to comment on Rybakina's situation out of respect for the player, the Kazakh said no one had offered support.

"I don't need support," Rybakina said. "There are a couple of players (with whom) I'm in touch with more, but to say that I have very, very close friends on Tour is not true just because we are competing against each other. Everybody's surrounded by their teams."

Asked what she does in her downtime, especially here in Dubai where she bought an apartment two years ago, Rybakina said she enjoys going to the beach and indulging herself in the shops.

PLAYERS HAVE A 'LACK OF TRUST' IN DOPING AGENCIES: DJOKOVIC

Doha: Novak Djokovic says a majority of tennis players have lost faith in the anti-doping authorities following Jannik Sinner's three-month ban, and there's a widespread feeling that "favouritism" is being shown to the sport's biggest stars. He called on the World Anti-Doping Agency and the International Tennis Integrity Agency to overhaul their processes for dealing with doping cases "because the system and the structure obviously doesn't work."

"Right now there is a lack of trust generally from the tennis players, both male and female, toward WADA and ITIA and the whole process," Djokovic said.

"It's not a good image for our sport, that's for sure."

SINNER CASE 'A MILLION MILES FROM DOPING': WADA

Sinner's three-month ban for a pair of positive drug tests has been defended by the World Anti-Doping Agency after claims the player's punishment was too lenient. "This was a case that was a million miles away from doping," WADA's general counsel Ross Wenzel told BBC Sport on Tuesday. "The scientific feedback that we received was that this could not be a case of intentional doping, including micro-dosing." AGENCIES

GALLERY

Manas, Aryan impress in defeats

Pune: Manas Dhamne didn't win his first match on home turf in two years, but provided ample evidence of what is in store in the years to come at the $160K Pune Metropolitan ATP Challenger men's tennis event on Tuesday, **reports Kumaraswamy.K.** The 17-year-old Indian wildcard went down to top seed Billy Harris of Britain 4-6, 4-6. Another wildcard, Aryan Shah, impressed with his level but American sixth seed Brandon Holt proved too good in a 6-2, 6-2 win.

Manu cards 5-under 31: Manu Gandas of Gurugram set the bar with an error-free five-under 31 to take lead on day one of the Gujarat Open in Ahmedabad on Tuesday.

USA defend lowest ever ODI total: USA on Tuesday successfully defended the lowest-ever total of 122 in a non-curtailed ODI match to beat Oman by 57 runs in a their Cricket World Cup League 2 match in Muscat.

Shardul to join Essex for County C'ship Division One: India all-rounder Shardul Thakur will play seven matches for County team Essex in Division One from the beginning of the 2025 season, the club announced on Tuesday.

Rana will continue as my coach, says Manu: Double Olympic medallist shooter Manu Bhaker said Jaspal Rana will continue to be her coach despite the Dronacharya awardee being roped in as the High Performance trainer for pistol discipline by NRAI. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: Champions Trophy, Pak vs NZ, 1.30 pm (Star Sports); Ranji Trophy, SFs, Gujarat vs Kerala, 9.30 am (Star Sports); WPL, UP vs Delhi, 6.30 pm (Star Sports);
FOOTBALL: ISL, 7.30 pm (Star Sports); Champions League, Playoffs-Leg 2, 11.15 pm & 1.30 am Thursday (Sony Sports); I-League, 2 pm & 4.30 pm (Sony Sports);
HOCKEY: Pro League, India Women vs Spain, 7.30 pm; India men vs Germany, 5.30 pm & 11 pm (Star Sports)

Hey Jude, don't refrain

Real star has been in the news for the wrong reasons but his teammates wouldn't want him any other way

Getty Images

Jude Bellingham scored in the 92nd minute at City last week to give Real the 3-2 advantage

Paris: Jude Bellingham edged Real Madrid ahead in their Champions League play-off against Manchester City, but then his week swiftly took a turn for the worse.

The England international was sent off for dissent in the first half as Los Blancos dropped two points in the Spanish title race on Saturday at Osasuna.

But Bellingham's teammate Federico Valverde said he did not want the midfielder to change his ways.

"What I want is players who leave their soul out on the pitch, in this case with Jude in the last game, I always want him to be like that," Valverde told reporters. "Jude is a player who shows character, who always wants to win, who always wants to fight.

"This time he got a red card, but I like that he's giving everything, his spikiness... we have to stay united as a team."

The midfielder will at least be fresh for the second leg clash with City at the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday, with Madrid holding a 3-2 lead in the tie after their victory at the Etihad Stadium last week. Bellingham felt he had let his side down with his dismissal, despite insisting the referee misunderstood him, and he apologised to his teammates. All will be forgiven if he helps pull Madrid past Pep Guardiola's City and into the last 16.

Bellingham was previously linked with City but on arrival at Madrid said once the Spanish giants came in for him he got "goosebumps" and that his heart nearly stopped. "I'd always been aware of the interest from England," he said. "Money is not a thing for me. It wasn't a case of other teams are bad or they weren't good but, for me, Madrid is the greatest."

The 21-year-old, this season, operating in a slightly more withdrawn role following the arrival of Kylian Mbappe, initially found it harder to find his spark in attack. However coach Carlo Ancelotti backed the midfielder to come good. Eventually Bellingham's nose for goal returned and he has scored 10 times in his last 20 games, as well as six assists. The most recent of those strikes came in the 92nd min against City to snatch Madrid the advantage. AFP

> **"What I want is players who leave their soul out on the pitch. In this case with Jude in the last game, I always want him to be like that. He got a red card (on Saturday), but I like that he's giving everything, his spikiness."**
> —**Federico Valverde,** REAL MADRID

Ancelotti downplays Pep's suggestion City have 1% chance against Real

Ancelotti is not buying City rival Pep Guardiola's suggestion that his side has only a 1% chance of eliminating Real Madrid. After City's 4-0 EPL win over Newcastle on Saturday, Guardiola said his team would arrive in Madrid with a "1%" chance of going through. "He doesn't really think that," Ancelotti said. "I'll ask him before the match. He thinks he has more than that, just as we don't think that we have 99% chance. We know we have an advantage, and we have to make the most of it." AP

Tonight's fixtures: Dortmund vs Sporting; PSG vs Brest, Real Madrid vs Man City, PSV Eindhoven vs Juventus.

Rekhade rattles Mumbai with three-wicket over

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Nagpur: Ajinkya Rahane, Suryakumar Yadav and Shivam Dube, all big names, foxed out within five balls. Prior to this one-over mayhem, Mumbai were on course while replying to Vidarbha's 383. From 113 for 2, the defending champions were reduced to 113 for 5 by Parth Rekhade, playing only his second first-class match.

Rekhade was supposed to play the supporting role to Harsh Dubey, who picked his 60th wicket of the Ranji season on Tuesday. He made the cut as the team sought batting depth. On Day 2, though, the left-arm spinner decided to be the wrecker-in-chief to change the course of the Ranji Trophy semifinal with his stupendous over.

By the end of play, Shardul Thakur and Shams Mulani, two of the three knights in shining armour often rescuing Mumbai, were also back in the pavilion. Finishing Day 2 on 188 for 7, Mumbai trail Vidarbha by 195 runs. Having gained the upper hand, Vidarbha would look to dismiss opener Akash Anand (67*;171b;6x4) and Tanush Kotian (5*;9b;1x4) at the earliest on Wednesday.

Brief Scores: Mumbai 188 for 7 (Anand 67*, S Thakur 37, Lad 35, Rekhade 3-16, Y Thakur 2-56) trail Vidarbha 383 (Malewar 79, Shorey 74, Rathod 54, Dube 5-49) by 195 runs

Flick defends VAR as Barca go top of Liga

Robert Lewandowski (R) celebrates with Gavi after scoring from the penalty spot

Reuters

Barcelona: Barcelona manager Hansi Flick defended the use of the video assistant referee (VAR) after Rayo Vallecano were left fuming following a number of controversial decisions during Monday's La Liga match.

Barcelona striker Robert Lewandowski scored the winner from the penalty spot in the first-half following a long VAR review over a foul inside the box that the referee did not catch on first sight.

Rayo also complained after they were denied a penalty and were further angered when they were denied an equaliser as they thought Jorge de Frutos' strike was harshly ruled out in the 42nd minute. "I haven't rewatched the incidents but I will always stand by the VAR. We have the VAR and I believe in the VAR, that's all I can say about it," Flick said.

"We are very happy for the three points because it was very difficult game for us to win against a great opponent. Rayo are in a good form, playing very well. It was a tough game for the players and I'm proud of them."

Monday's incidents added to the growing debate surrounding refereeing in Spain, with Barca rivals Real Madrid clashing with Spanish FA and LaLiga. With Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid dropping points over the weekend, Monday's result allowed Barca climb to the top of the standings. They are level on 51 points with Real but lead on goal difference. Atletico trail both by a point, while Rayo, who lost their first league game since early in December, are sixth on 35 points. REUTERS

Reds can handle title tension, says Slot

London: Arne Slot insists Liverpool can handle the mounting pressure of the Premier League title race after the leaders were hampered by nerves in their tense win against Wolves.

Slot's side head to Aston Villa on Wednesday knowing a victory would move them 10 points clear of Arsenal in their bid to clinch a record-equalling 20th English title. But Liverpool, in dynamic form for much of the season, have looked less secure of late.

Arsenal have added to the pressure with a 15-match unbeaten run in the league.

Slot pointed to Liverpool's ability to grind out several wins by a one-goal margin already this season as proof they won't crumble.

"It is because we are going to the end of the season, not because of us but what people make of it," Slot said. "We have won other games at home or away by one goal when it was also tight.

ARNE SLOT

EPL PREVIEW: VS VILLA

I remember Crystal Palace away when it was tight in the end. If this happens at the end of the season you guys are going to talk about nerves.

"Villa away is one of the tougher ones you can face. Very good manager, always has a very good game plan."

Slot will be without Cody Gakpo and Joe Gomez, with the latter facing a "number of weeks" out. AFP

Azharuddeen's 149 puts Kerala on top

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Ahmedabad: Kerala wicketkeeper-batter Mohammed Azharuddeen (149* off 303b; 17x4) recorded a ton after seven years as the visitors dominated the second day of their Ranji Trophy semifinal against Gujarat. The 30-year-old became the first batter from the state to score a ton in a Ranji semis as Kerala reached 418/7 at stumps here on Tuesday.

Kerala resumed Day 2 on 206/4 with captain Sachin Baby (69 off 195b; 8x4) and Azharuddeen at the crease. Gujarat left-arm pacer Arzan Nagwaswalla dismissed Baby off the second ball of the day, leaving Kerala in a spot of bother. However, southpaw Salman Nizar 52 (202b; 4x4, 1x6) and Azharuddeen helped calm nerves, with a 149-run partnership — the highest in Kerala's innings so far.

Brief Scores: Kerala 418 for 7 (Azharuddeen 149*, Baby 69, Nagwaswalla 3-64) vs Gujarat

Zelezny's inputs will take me to 90m mark soon: Neeraj

New Delhi: Two-time Olympic medal-winning javelin throw star **Neeraj Chopra** has revealed that his new coach Jan Zelezny has figured out mistakes in his technique and will now make some adjustments to his throwing routine to help him achieve the 90m mark. The 26-year-old, while speaking to *India Today*, also opened up about his hush-hush wedding to former tennis player Himani Mor last month, saying that their relationship was a casual friendship at first "but slowly we fell in love".

Chopra has been trying hard to hit the 90m mark. His personal best stands at 89.94m which was achieved in 2022. His season begins in May with the Diamond League and would mark the competitive start of his partnership with Zelezny, a former Olympic and world champion who also holds the world record (98.48m). "I believe a 90+ throw is happening soon. He (Jan Zelezny) has made some technical adjustments in my game," said Chopra.

"He (Zelezny) feels that his tweaks would help me. I've been able to understand what he expects from me. One of the mistakes he told me about was how I was throwing very low even in Paris and that I was leaning towards the left.

"If I am able to incorporate those changes, I think I will get a lot better," he added.

But the Panipat-lad insisted that the milestone is still not as important as winning medals for the country.

"I want to do it for myself. But, going to a competition and winning a medal against people who have previously thrown 90 metres is even more important. There's no point in throwing 90 metres and not winning.

"What if everyone throws 90+ there and despite throwing 90, you don't win? I want to throw more than 90 metres; everyone believes I can do that. Klaus (Bartoniet, his former coach) believed it, Zelezny believes it. It will come off if I can fix the javelin line. I am giving my 100 per cent, and that is important for me," he added. PTI

'WE SLOWLY FELL IN LOVE'

Opening up about his marriage, Chopra said both he and Himani Mor wanted it to be an private affair and that's why they chose a place near Solan. "I knew her. She also comes from a family with a sports background. Her father and mother were kabaddi players. Her brothers were boxers and wrestlers," Chopra said. "She herself was a tennis player, but after picking up injuries, she focused more on her studies," he added.

Shedding light on how their relationship developed over a period of time, Chopra said being athletes, they could "connect easily".

"Because our families had a sports background, we had the opportunity to meet. Our conversations began like that — just two athletes talking. It was casual at first, but slowly, we fell in love."

Mary Kom denies quitting IOA panel

New Delhi: The Indian Olympic Association's athletes commission chairperson and boxing legend MC Mary Kom on Tuesday denied reports that she has resigned from her position, insisting that she has been misunderstood and will complete her tenure in the panel.

The 42-year-old Manipuri, who is also a 2012 Olympics bronze-winner, had travelled to Haldwani for the National Games closing ceremony last week where she expressed her displeasure over being lodged at an "inferior hotel". Mary Kom said her outburst in a private WhatsApp group was misconstrued and leaked to the media as resignation.

"I have not resigned, I will complete my tenure (which ends in 2026)," she asserted. "I was merely telling my fellow (athletes commission) members that if this kind of treatment happens again, I will consider resigning. I never said that I am resigning. IOA is my family and if I am unhappy over something, I have every right to express it.

"This does not mean that I am resigning," she went on.

Mary Kom was elected to the panel in 2022, with table-tennis stalwart A Sharath Kamal as vice-chairperson.

"Whoever has leaked the private conversation in the WhatsApp group of Athletes Commission has not done the right thing." PTI

A day of disappointment for India

Pro League: Men's And Women's Teams Lose In Contrasting Fashion

Arnab.Seal@timesofindia.com

Bhubaneswar: Both the Indian men's and women's hockey teams faced disappointing defeats in their respective FIH Pro League matches at the Kalinga Stadium on Tuesday.

The women's team lost a closely contested match to Spain 3-4, while the men's team fell to Germany 1-4 in a more one-sided affair.

The Indian women's team started strong, with Baljeet Kaur scoring the opener in the 19th minute. However, Spain quickly responded, with Sofia Rogoski and Estel Petchame netting goals in the 21st and 25th minutes to take the lead.

India fought back, with Sakshi Rana and Rutuja Dadaso Pisal scoring in the 38th and 45th minutes. Unfortunately, the team's intensity dropped in the final quarter, allowing Spain to capitalize with two goals in quick succession.

Coach Harendra Singh expressed his disappointment after the loss and said, "We need to be more alert during free hits inside the 25m and improve our game management. At times, we switched off, particularly during their third goal."

Petchame scored her second goal in the 49th minute, and Spain sealed their victory with a final goal from Lucia Jimenez in the 52nd minute.

In the men's match, Germany took control early, with Florian Sperling scoring in the seventh minute. India equalized shortly after through Gurjant Singh, who converted a well-placed pass from Rajinder Singh.

However, Germany regained the lead just a minute later with a goal from Thies Prinz. Despite some attacking efforts from India, they struggled to convert opportunities, notably failing to score from five penalty corners — a critical factor for the loss.

Later, coach Craig Fulton remarked, "Good play but not good on PCs, I'm not happy with that. We haven't scored from a PC yet, which is not normal for us."

Germany extended their lead with goals from Michel Struthoff in the 48th minute and Raphael Hartkopf in the 55th minute, leaving India unable to respond effectively. "I think we played defensively quite good, we were effective in the opponent's D and defended with a big heart, so yes, we played good," said Germany's Moritz Ludwig.

FIH

The India's women's team lost narrowly to Spain in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday

'Don't let your child pursue sports unless you are rich!'

A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE OF SPORTSPERSONS MAKE IT BIG. THE REST WITHER AWAY. THEY NEED MORE JOBS AND BETTER SUPPORT FROM THE SYSTEM, ARGUES BADMINTON ICON P GOPICHAND

Manne.Ratnakar@timesofindia.com

Hyderabad: One would expect national badminton coach **Pullela Gopichand** to be overjoyed with the growing number of youngsters taking up sports as a profession, as a career, as a way of life. But the former All England champion says parents must think twice before letting their children dream about becoming professional sportspersons.

In a chat with **TOI**, the man who played a key role in making India a badminton superpower, says, "I advise parents not to put their children in sports. We are not in a position to offer sports as a career. Unless the children are from rich backgrounds or have a family business, it is not advisable for children to take up sport."

His contention is simple. Very few make it big. Those who don't break into the elite rung of players, lack the skills to survive without sports after they retire at around 30.

The Dronacharya awardee's concern comes from initiatives like Khelo India, Top Scheme, Go Sports, OGQ and corporates making sports extremely attractive to youngsters. But there is no safety net to fall back on in case they fail to make it big.

"The reality of sport is that less than 1% of people who take up sport end up having it as a profession or career," he says.

"In sports like cricket, this number could be marginally better, but in essence sport would mean that a very small percentage of them make it. Where do we end up? What are the returns of the people who have made it?"

Sitting in his academy office in Hyderabad, a large glass window separating him from the playing courts where future champions are practising, he says, "Olympic medallists who work in the Railways, RBI, Income Tax, police or a PSU have a lower rank than a civil servant who gets to reap benefits of his learning till the age of 60. The Olympic medallist who has burned himself out, will have to call the civil servant 'sir' or 'madam'. They are at the mercy of the officer, hoping they will have people who will respect sportspersons who won medals for the country. And you may also find a boss with a negative mindset towards sportspersons."

He wondered if those who represented the country should be at the mercy of society where they may or may not get respect. "Think of what has happened to hundreds of people who have represented the country in the last 20 years in various sports, won medals. Where are they today? What is their future? What is their earning capacity?"

He gives the example of sprinter Jyothi Yarraji – a 100m hurdles silver medallist from the 2022 Hangzhou Asian Games – who has been making numerous appeals for a proper job. Gopichand is also disappointed with how hockey stars like Dhanraj Pillay and Mukesh Kumar and shooter Vijay Kumar have been treated after they achieved so much for the country. "Going by what they have done for the country, is this the right kind of reward they deserve?" he asks. "If this is the case, how can we encourage our children to take up sport?"

Former hockey captain Mukesh Kumar told **TOI** that even national-level hockey players are not getting jobs today, a statement supported by Mukesh. "In our days, we used to get some job, but now many top PSUs and banks have stopped recruiting hockey players," he says. "The situation is depressing."

'CREATE A SAFETY NET'

Gopichand believes that if we really want to produce more professional sportspersons, then society must create a safety net around them. "To survive, these sportspersons also need other skills. Like spoken English presentation skills, and more importantly, a motivation to do something different once they retire. Often, just the motivation is missing," he said.

Sciver-Brunt show secures MI victory

Vadodara: Allrounder Nat Sciver-Brunt starred in both departments as Mumbai Indians produced a clinical performance to return to winning ways with a five-wicket victory over a self-destructive Gujarat Giants in their Women's Premier League match here on Tuesday.

Sciver-Brunt smashed a 39-ball 57, her second consecutive half-century, after taking two wickets for 26, as MI first bowled out GG for a modest 120 and then chased down the target, scoring 122 for 5 with 3.5 overs to spare.

Invited to bat, Gujarat paid the price for their over-aggression, with MI's bowlers, led by off-spinner Hayley Matthews, delivering a tight performance. Shabnim Ismail (1/17), Amelia Kerr (2/22), and Amanjot Kaur (1/17) also played key roles in restricting Gujarat.

In response, Sciver-Brunt dazzled with a flurry of boundaries, playing cuts, pulls, sweeps and scoop shots with ease. She hit 11 fours during her innings before she was eventually dismissed in the 16th over with just seven runs required to win.

Chasing 121, MI lost Matthews (17), Yastika Bhatia (8) and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur (4) early as MI slipped to 55-3 in the 8th over. PTI

Brief scores: Gujarat Giants 120 all out in 20 overs (H Deol 32, K Gautam 20; H Matthews 3/16, A Kerr 2/22, N Sciver-Brunt 2/26) vs Mumbai Indians 122/5 in 16.1 overs (N Sciver-Brunt 57, A Kerr 19; K Gautam 2/15, P Mishra 2/40).
Result: MI won by 5 wickets.

Capitals, Warriorz eye improvement in batting dept

Vadodara: Delhi Capitals and UP Warriorz will be aiming for an improved batting effort here on Wednesday after floundering in their previous Women's Premier League (WPL) matches. Their clash is also the last match here at the Kotambi Stadium before the WPL action shifts to Bengaluru from Feb 21.

The Capitals are yet to match the pre-tournament favourite billing with performances. Their batting has failed to fire in two matches, even in their victory over the Mumbai Indians.

The UP outfit too is in a similar place. Grace Harris and Tahlia McGrath, their middle-order powerhouses, looked uneasy against spin and the Capitals have a capable bunch in Minnu Mani, Jess Jonassen and Radha Yadav. The absence of an injured Alyssa Healy has reduced the firepower in the top order. PTI

SHOWBIZ
ISHAAN KHATTER'S 'SNOWY' SOJOURN TO KASHMIR
P3

Delhi Times

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025
ADVERTORIAL, ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

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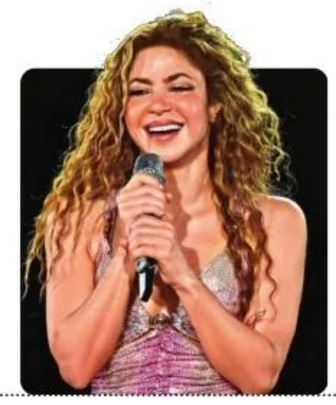


SHAKIRA SET TO RESUME PERU CONCERT POST HOSPITAL STAY ON SUNDAY

Prathamesh Bandekar

'WE'VE TO CREATE OUR OWN OPPORTUNITIES WHEN WE DON'T GET WHAT WE WANT'

FATIMA SANA SHAIKH

Onkar Kulkarni

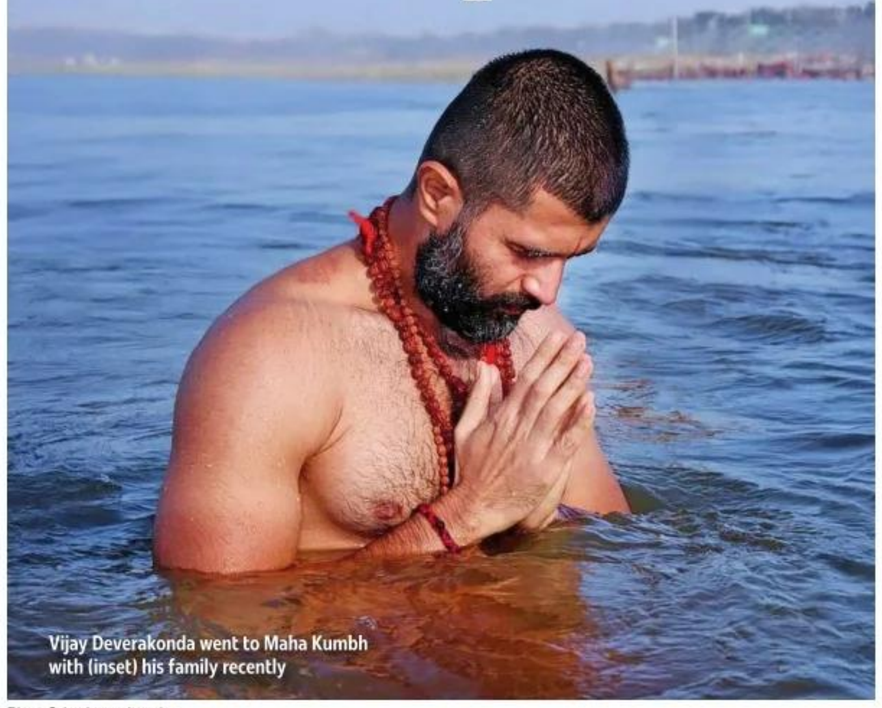
While Fatima Sana Shaikh had a very busy 2024, the audience didn't see her on the big screen or on OTT all through last year. However, the actress is unperturbed by the waiting game. "When you are shooting, your mind stays focused on work, so you don't stress. But when you're sitting at home with no shooting schedule, that's when the panic sets in. The release of a project isn't in the actor's hands – it depends on so many factors. We can only keep shooting and moving forward. I worked a lot in 2024, and I want to see how people perceive me when my projects release this year," says the *Dangal* actress.

CONTINUED ON 3

'Actors need to think of branching because we don't always get the opportunities we want'

Fatima also believes that actors like Anushka Sharma and Konkona Sensharma made a smart move by branching into production, and she hopes to follow suit in the future. "Ali Fazal and Richa Chadha are also producing some amazing projects. Actors now need to think this way because sometimes we don't get the opportunities we want. We have to create our own," she says.

Making memories: Vijay on his Maha Kumbh experience



Vijay Deverakonda went to Maha Kumbh with (inset) his family recently

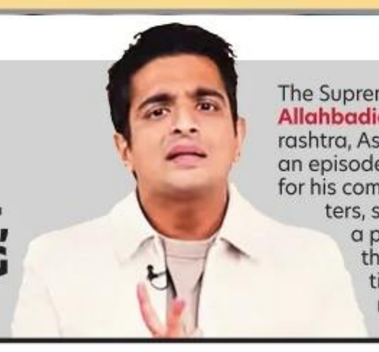
Pics: @thedeverakonda

Vijay Deverakonda visited Maha Kumbh and Kashi Vishwanath temple with his family recently. The *Liger* actor took to Instagram to share pictures of his spiritual getaway, and wrote, "A journey to connect, pay respect to our epic origins and roots. Making memories with my Indian boys (*sic*)."

Talking about his family time, he added, "Saying Prayers with mummy dearest. A trip to Kasi with this darling gang (*sic*)." TNN

Buzzstop

SC STAYS RANVEER ALLAHBADIA'S ARREST, BARS HIM FROM DOING SHOWS FOR NOW



The Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed the arrest of YouTuber **Ranveer Allahbadia**, aka BeerBiceps, in the FIRs registered against him in Maharashtra, Assam and Rajasthan, for his inappropriate remarks made during an episode of the reality show *India's Got Latent*. The court called him out for his comments, saying, "The words you have used will make daughters, sisters, parents and even the society feel ashamed. It shows a perverted mind." While the SC allowed him interim protection, they restrained the YouTuber from doing any other show for the time being. The Court also ordered that no further FIR should be registered against Allahbadia with regard to this case. Agencies

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The Doha billionairess and her jewelled legacy

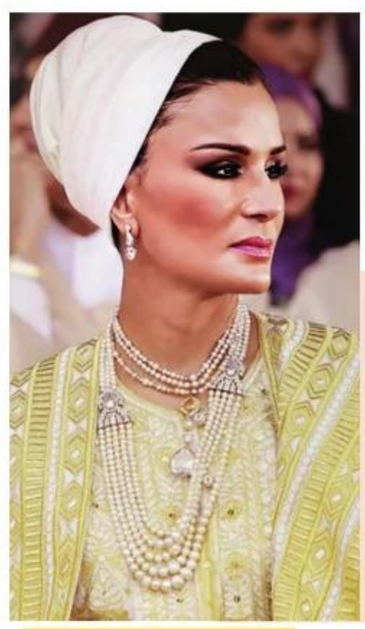
While the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, is making headlines in India while on his two-day visit, another member of the Qatari royal family is also being talked about for her recent public appearances – the Emir's mother Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The fashion icon and philanthropist is known for her impeccable style and stunning collection of jewellery. Here's a look:

Global glitterati is enamoured by Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, the style icon, entrepreneur and power lady of Qatar. And there is enough reason to be so. One of the consorts of Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the former Emir of Qatar, and mother of the current Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Sheikha Moza's public appearances have kept fashion critics and publications busy analysing her stellar sartorial choices. She has often been compared with Elizabeth Taylor and Maharani Gayatri Devi for her exquisite sartorial statements. In particular, her collection of statement jewellery pieces that would be comparable (or even eclipse) some of the most jaw-dropping jewels on public view last year on various occasions.

Sheikha Moza's public appearances – and she lives an active life between her philanthropy and entrepreneurial work – have fuelled many conversations among the glitterati in India as well. In fact, the recent launch of Sabyasachi's collection in Doha was said to be inspired by her elegant aesthetic while she was also listed as one of the people shaping the Global Fashion Industry (BOF, 2024).

Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, with PM Modi. The Emir is currently in India

(Above) Sheikha Moza paired vintage David Webb gold coral earrings and a layered gold coral necklace with a navy blue Valentino outfit for Dutch King Willem Alexander's coronation in 2013 in Amsterdam. Webb's creations have been favoured by the likes of Liz Taylor and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis



Sheikha Moza's fascinating jewellery collection prominently features an array of statement pearl necklaces – ranging from single strands to elaborate layers, with pieces from esteemed jewellers such as Robert Wan and Mikimoto. (Left) She layered two iconic Cartier pieces for a royal wedding in 2014. According to an Instagram handle dedicated to the royal, Sheikha Moza Fashion, the smaller necklace is called "Le Tavernier" and features two Golconda diamonds

One of the most talked-about pieces in her treasury is Cartier's Eternity snake diamond necklace, which is believed to have been modified for her. Created in 1998, the necklace originally featured two of the largest emeralds in the world, weighing 205 and 206 carats, along with 26 baroque pear emeralds, 3957 diamonds, and fine pearls (inset). The version worn by Sheikha Moza was reportedly altered to replace the emeralds with two large white diamonds, with the smaller emeralds and pearls removed for a more streamlined look. She paired it with a grey J Mendel dress at a 2010 event in London

POV

Student of the year

As congratulatory posts pour in from political bigwigs and industrialists, Samarth Mahangade has already cleared an impossible challenge with *flying* colours. The college student, who paraglided from Panchgani to his exam centre in Pasarni minutes before the deadline to avoid congested roads, has been in the news for everything – from his "problem-solving" abilities to his resolve and determination. It is true grit. Absolutely.

But behind the feel-good story is also a grim reminder of how a staggering number of students battle the odds every day – not for social media clout, not for viral fame, but simply to get to class on time. Something that should be a given, what with the seriousness with which young students pursue their dreams of a better life, their academic and career ambitions. It's easy to cheer for a story like Samarth's, but let's also talk about the ones that don't make headlines.

iStock

There is perhaps a tendency to glorify the perseverance of the students who wade through flooded city streets during the monsoon, or travel miles on foot, sometimes negotiating a river in spate, by overcrowded buses, or hanging off the edge of trains just to reach school or an exam centre. But what we may not remember is that all it takes is a broken bridge or a delayed train to destroy an entire academic year. Or as in the tragic incident in Delhi, where JEE aspirants drowned in a flooded basement of a coaching centre, the irreplaceable loss of lives.

We all love a good underdog story – who doesn't? Films like *Super 30* and *12th Fail* have well captured the sheer tenacity of our students, showcasing the immense struggles they overcome in their pursuit of education. These films resonate deeply because they reflect a reality that is all too familiar – brilliant, hardworking students navigating a system that often seems indifferent to their hardships.

Samarth's story is impressive, no doubt. But you know what would be even more impressive? A system where students don't have to paraglide, wade or struggle just to reach their classrooms. Now, that would be something worth normalising.

Agree? Disagree? Got a POV idea? **Write to us at:** pov@timesofindia.com

LEISURE

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

Level: Medium

					5			
		1		2	3			
6	3	8				1		
9							7	1
	6		5		8		9	
4	2							5
		6				4	1	3
			6	8		7		
			9					

HOW TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

TIMES HITORI

HOW TO PLAY

1. A number may appear just once in each row or column. Eliminate repeat numbers by darkening cells. (see example)
2. Darkened cells must never be adjacent in a row or column.
3. Unmarked cells must create a single continuous area, undivided by darkened cells.
4. Every time you darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated.
5. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled. (e.g. 6 ④ 6)
6. A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends. (e.g. ● 6 ● 6)

6	6	5	1	6	7	6	8
7	4	5	2	8	9	6	3
7	7	7	3	8	4	6	2
5	2	4	8	1	7	9	8
1	6	7	1	6	2	3	4
1	1	5	6	3	8	1	9
8	3	1	9	8	6	7	5
3	3	2	1	5	1	4	6

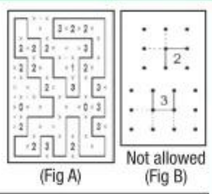
8	●	5	7	3	●	4	6
4	5	1	●	7	6	●	2
2	●	7	1	5	4	6	8
5	6	2	4	●	7	6	●
2	7	5	5	1	7	2	7
1	●	6	●	4	3	5	7
7	8	4	6	2	●	●	7
●	4	5	2	●	5	7	1

Example

LOOP THE LOOP

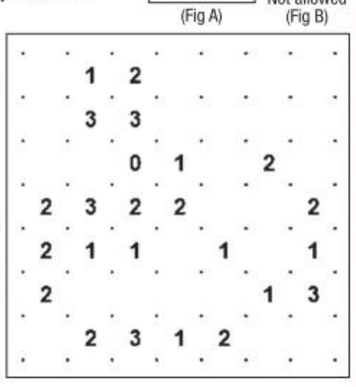
RULES

- Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
- Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B).
- Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
- You can't draw lines around zeroes.
- Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

Not allowed (Fig B)



HOW TO BEGIN:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a deadend (Fig B).

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

By Maddy Ziegler

19/02/2025

ACROSS

1 Gratuity
4 Common London weather
7 __ moment
10 Feathery accessory
13 Burdened by debt
15 Competed in a turkey trot
16 Piercing tool that resembles a screwdriver
17 Musical set at the Kit Kat Klub
18 Way of thinking
20 Spared no expense
22 Border city on the Rio Grande
23 Distinguishing feature of some languages
24 __ shirt
26 Skin art, for short
28 Anti-narcotics org.
29 Barter
33 2023 Academy Honorary Award recipient Bassett
36 WSW opposite
37 Goalie's success
38 British nobleman
39 Big name in tiny candies
41 Curling __
42 Four Corners state
43 "Sex Education" actor Butterfield
44 "Advancing the power of facts" journalism website
46 Office 34-Down
47 Fair-weather __
48 Rule, for short
49 Lars of Metallica
52 Throws in
55 Kind of paper in a gift bag
58 Long, relaxing baths
61 Works a summer office job, perhaps
63 Scout who may sell cookies
64 Hotshot
65 Green prefix
66 ID checker at a nightclub
67 Tool with teeth
68 Camera __
69 Casual affirmative
70 Historic time

DOWN

1 Nervous twitches
2 Not fitting
3 2012 World Series MVP Sandoval
4 "You're not making this up?"
5 Designer Cassini
6 "Don't let the thieves escape!"
7 Cup holder locale, perhaps
8 *Salute in ancient Rome
9 Record of the year?
10 Acid counterpart
11 Carried debt
12 Voice above tenor
14 *Scary Halloween venue
19 Severe scolding, and what the answers to the starred clues literally have?
21 *Vacation spot with horses
25 Button that may submit an online form
27 *Irish novelist who writes the "Dublin Murder Squad" series
30 Spy follower?
31 Declare bluntly
32 Pilot gear?
33 Grad
34 Short message
35 Unit on a kitchen scale
40 Actor Morales
45 Thick 4-Across metaphor
50 Tackle box supply
51 Solving crosswords, for some
53 Destination after a promposal
54 Slalom competitor
55 Aunts in la familia
56 Peru native
57 Seethe
59 Pants, in slang
60 Word sung twice after "Que" in a classic song
62 __ sauce

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

W	A	S	P		E	G	R	E	T		I	O	T	A
E	L	L	E		M	I	A	M	I		N	A	A	N
P	O	I	N	T	O	F	V	I	E	W	S	H	O	T
T	E	M	P	O		T	E	T		H	O	U	S	E
			A	O	L				O	I	L			
	P	O	L	K	A	D	O	T	D	R	E	S	S	
C	A	T	S		D	A	S	H	I		S	O	A	R
H	U	H			S	L	A	I	N			D	Y	E
E	L	E	C	T		A	G	E		S	T	O	N	E
F	O	R	A	B	R	I	E	F	P	E	R	I	O	D
			N	S	A				A	T	A			
T	U	N	A		I	C	I	E	R		P	A	L	E
S	T	O	P	A	L	O	N	G	T	H	E	W	A	Y
P	A	R	E	S		P	I	G		O	Z	O	N	E
S	H	I	S	H		E	T	S		W	E	L	D	S

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18/02/2025

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GARFIELD

SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters in the four word jumbles, one letter to each square/circle, to make four ordinary words

GSUEI
SHULS
EKSUNN
EINYDK

HOW TO PLAY

Now arrange the letters in the circles to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing word as indicated

___ makes a fellow feel good whether it's being done to him or by him. - Frank Clark (8)

EVENTS

EXHIBITION

India Habitat Centre: *Stars and Stories* - An exhibition of paintings by Shubhra Jain. Till tomorrow. Convention Centre Foyer, IHC

India Habitat Centre: *Panchtatva: The Elemental Mosaic* - A solo painting exhibition. Today. Visual Arts Gallery, IHC

Email us at tims.delhitimes@timesofindia.com

ARCHIE

IT TOOK WEEKS OF LOOKING, BUT I THINK I FOUND JUST THE THING FOR VERONICA!
WELL, DO YOU LIKE IT?
OH, ARCHIE, OF COURSE I DO! IT'S PERFECT...
...DID YOU KEEP THE RECEIPT?
12-20

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See what the stars have in store for you - according to your moon sign.

ARIES: Anything you do as a team is likely to turn out to be more successful than anything you attempt independently. This is especially true when everyone is striving for the same objective.

TAURUS: Your abilities and talents are being recognised, and there's an influx of positive news. While things may get busy, your clarity of mind will help you navigate easily. You may receive help from someone in authority, and new projects are starting to take shape. Be cautious of overspending or overindulging.

GEMINI: Treat lighthearted issues with frivolity, but only as long as you give serious involvements the respect they deserve. Know the difference.

CANCER: You seem to be in a hurry today. Be prepared for office expenses, including maintenance costs for equipment or computers. Clear out paperwork and respond to important messages promptly. Long-distance travel may be on the cards, but consider postponing if possible. Personal relationships may also undergo shifts.

LEO: An influential person might offer you something intriguing, but take your time to decide. More responsibilities could come your way, and relocation might be a possibility. Some of your challenges are deep-rooted and won't resolve quickly, so don't get discouraged.

VIRGO: If an occasion should arise that requires a small sacrifice on behalf of someone for whom you're responsible, do so with a smile. Don't make a big thing out of it, and it won't be one.

LIBRA: You're likely to be involved in disputes, whether personal or legal. While things will eventually work out in your favour, mental anxiety may weigh on you. New ideas and a keen sense of others' feelings will help you navigate challenges.

SCORPIO: Intrigues and challenges are part of your nature, they could bring out the best in you. Lucky gains and travel opportunities are on the horizon, and your analytical skills will be heightened.

SAGITTARIUS: Career matters are looking favourable, though they may feel more challenging than usual. You might question job security, but with Jupiter in a supportive aspect, those worries are unfounded. Stick to proven methods, and avoid gossip, as it could come back to haunt you.

CAPRICORN: Legal professionals will find success, but business partnerships may face disagreements that could lead to losses. Travelling with loved ones could bring luck and fulfilment, while differences with siblings may arise. New responsibilities are on the way, children may play a supportive role at work.

AQUARIUS: You might be busy and unappreciated today, with little recognition for your efforts. Financial matters need attention to avoid potential losses. Avoid guaranteeing anything for others, as it could lead to trouble. Guard your words, as your bluntness might hurt feelings and create lasting tension.

PISCES: Someone you've always been there for may not be the one who can help you at this time, but in his or her place you will find the right person to help. It's your reward.

SPELLATHON

Today's Ratings:
11-average | 13-good | 15-outstanding

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

DENNIS THE MENACE

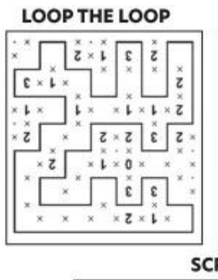
"YOUR MAILBAG SHOULD BE LIGHTER NOW SINCE MY DAD IS PAYIN' HIS BILLS ONLINE."

SOLUTIONS TO GAMES/PUZZLES

TIMES SUDOKU

7	1	2	9	3	4	5	6	8
3	5	4	6	8	1	7	2	9
8	9	6	7	5	2	4	1	3
4	2	7	3	1	9	6	8	5
1	6	3	5	7	8	2	9	4
9	8	5	2	4	6	3	7	1
6	3	8	4	9	7	1	5	2
5	7	1	8	2	3	9	4	6
2	4	9	1	6	5	8	3	7

LOOP THE LOOP



TIMES HITORI

6	3	2	5	1	4	7	8
8	3	1	9	6	7	5	2
1	9	7	6	2	3	4	5
5	2	4	8	1	9	6	3
9	1	6	3	7	5	8	4
3	8	5	4	9	2	1	7
4	7	3	1	5	8	2	6
2	5	8	7	4	6	3	9

SCRAMBLE

Words: Guise, slush, sunken, kidney
Answer: Kindness makes a fellow feel good whether it's being done to him or by him. - Frank Clark

SPELLATHON

emir, emit, item, merit, mime, mire, mite, remit, rite, tier, time, timer, tire, trim, TRIMMER

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Prathamesh Bandekar

I'm realistic about myself and my talent: Fatima

Fatima Sana Shaikh

CONTINUED FROM 1

'I WANT TO SEE IF THERE'S A SHIFT OR A CHANGE IN THE WAY I'M POSITIONED'

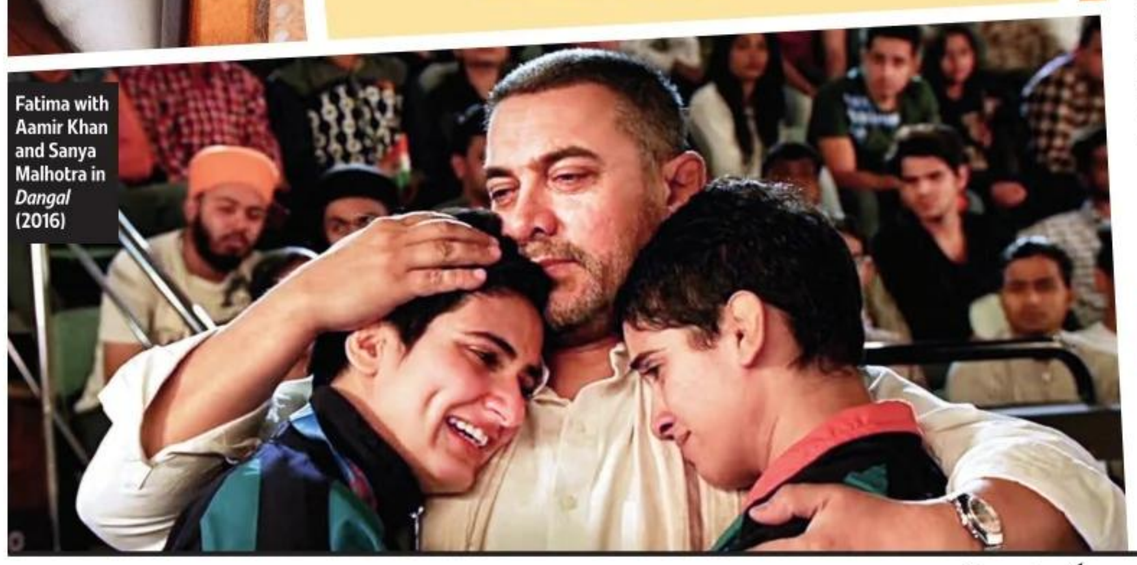
Talking about the kind of work that inspires her, Fatima says, "With the kind of work I am doing now, I want to see if there's a shift or a change in the way I'm positioned. I have bigger dreams for myself, but it's not about stardom. I want to do films that transcend borders and leave a deep impact, not just emotionally, but also in a way that a film like *Andaz Apna Apna* had on people." Apart from *Metro... In Dino*, she will also be seen in the romantic comedy *Aap Jaisa Koi* with R Madhavan, among other projects.

'I TRY TO COLLABORATE WITH PEOPLE, BUT THE MARKET IS TOUGH RIGHT NOW'

Fatima doesn't hesitate to approach producers if the project excites her. "I'm trying to collaborate with people, but the market is tough right now. There are a lot of projects out there, but they're not the ones that attract me. I'm realistic about myself, my talent and my positioning. I know what I can offer to a producer. I can't expect them to invest ₹100 crore on me. I sometimes chase projects I'm passionate about."

'If a role I want goes to Sanya, I could feel jealous or insecure'

Dangal was a breakout film for both Fatima and Sanya Malhotra, and the two became good friends after working together. However, as their careers grew, they both went down different paths. When asked if there's ever been a sense of rivalry or jealousy between them, Fatima says, "There is always some level of competition and insecurity in life... But how you handle that jealousy defines you. Of course, if a role I want goes to her, I could feel jealous or insecure. But I don't let my insecurities take over. I'm genuinely happy for Sanya."



Fatima with Aamir Khan and Sanya Malhotra in *Dangal* (2016)

> **I want to do films that transcend borders and leave a deep impact, not just emotionally, but also in a way that a film like *Andaz Apna Apna* had on people**

Hard to be a new mum and work: Radhika Apte multitasks during BAFTAs

@radhikaofficial

Radhika Apte's film *Sister Midnight* was nominated in the Outstanding Debut by a British writer, director or producer category

Radhika Apte, who welcomed a baby girl last December, attended the British Academy Film Awards 2025 in London on Sunday. Taking to Insta on Tuesday, the actress posted a photo of her standing in the washroom, holding a breast pump in one hand and a champagne glass in the other.

In her caption, Radhika gave a shoutout to one of her friends for making her BAFTA experience smooth and stress-free. Thanking her friend for making it possible for her to attend the BAFTAs scheduling the itinerary around her breast-pumping timings, Radhika wrote, "And now my BAFTAs reality... She (her friend) not only accompanied me to the washroom to express milk but more importantly brought me champagne in the loo." Radhika Apte added, "It's hard as is to be a new mum and work, this level of care and sensitivity is rare in our film industry and much appreciated." Radhika got married to British violinist and composer Benedict Taylor in 2012.

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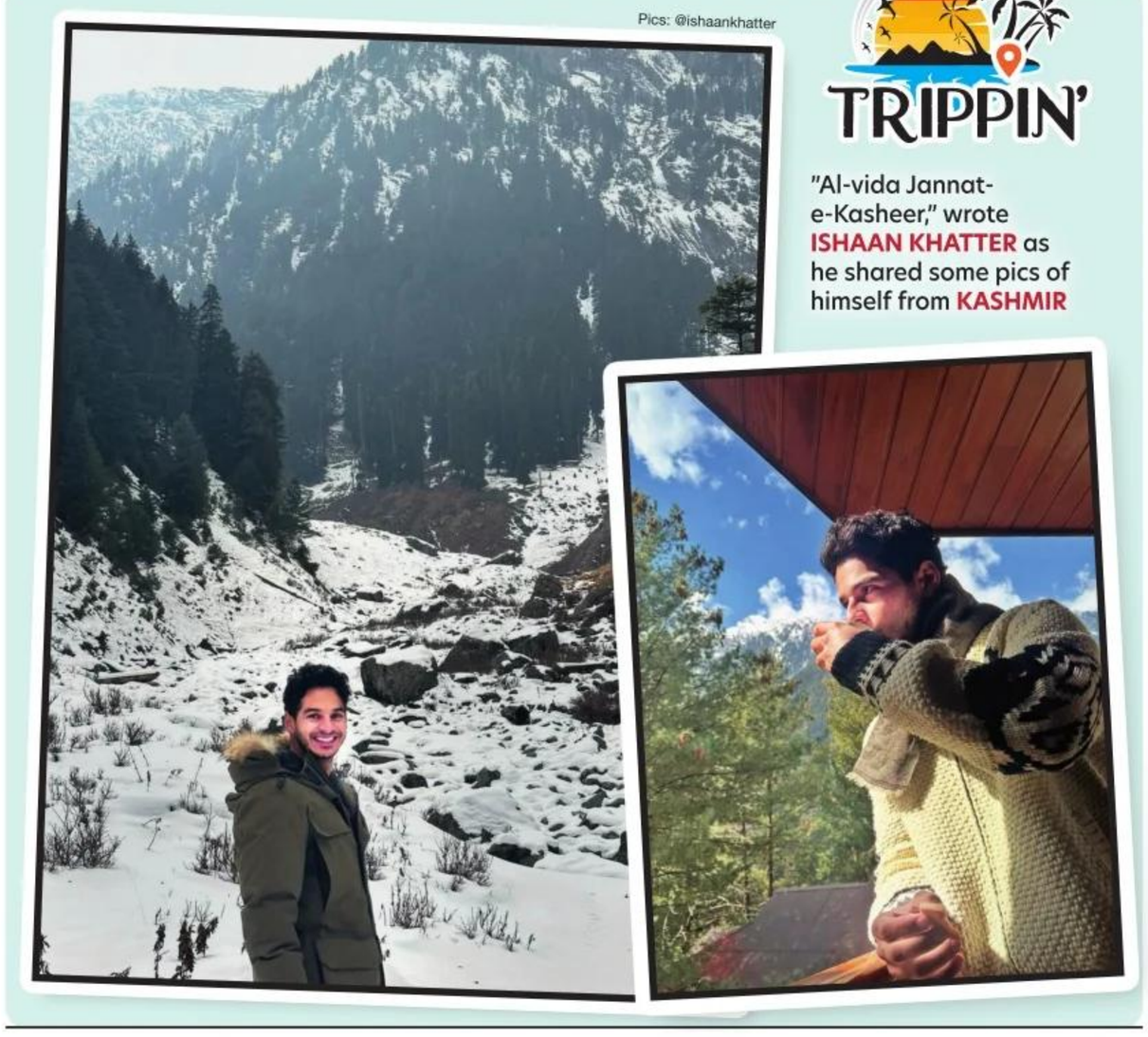
• WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
• JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
• NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
• LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

TRIPPIN'

Pics: @ishaankhatter

"Al-vida Jannat-e-Kasheer," wrote **ISHAAN KHATTER** as he shared some pics of himself from **KASHMIR**



@donalbisht

Donal Bisht

Wearing a mask all the time: Donal Bisht

The *Ek Deewaana Tha* actress is currently shooting in Foshan, China amid the HMPV outbreak

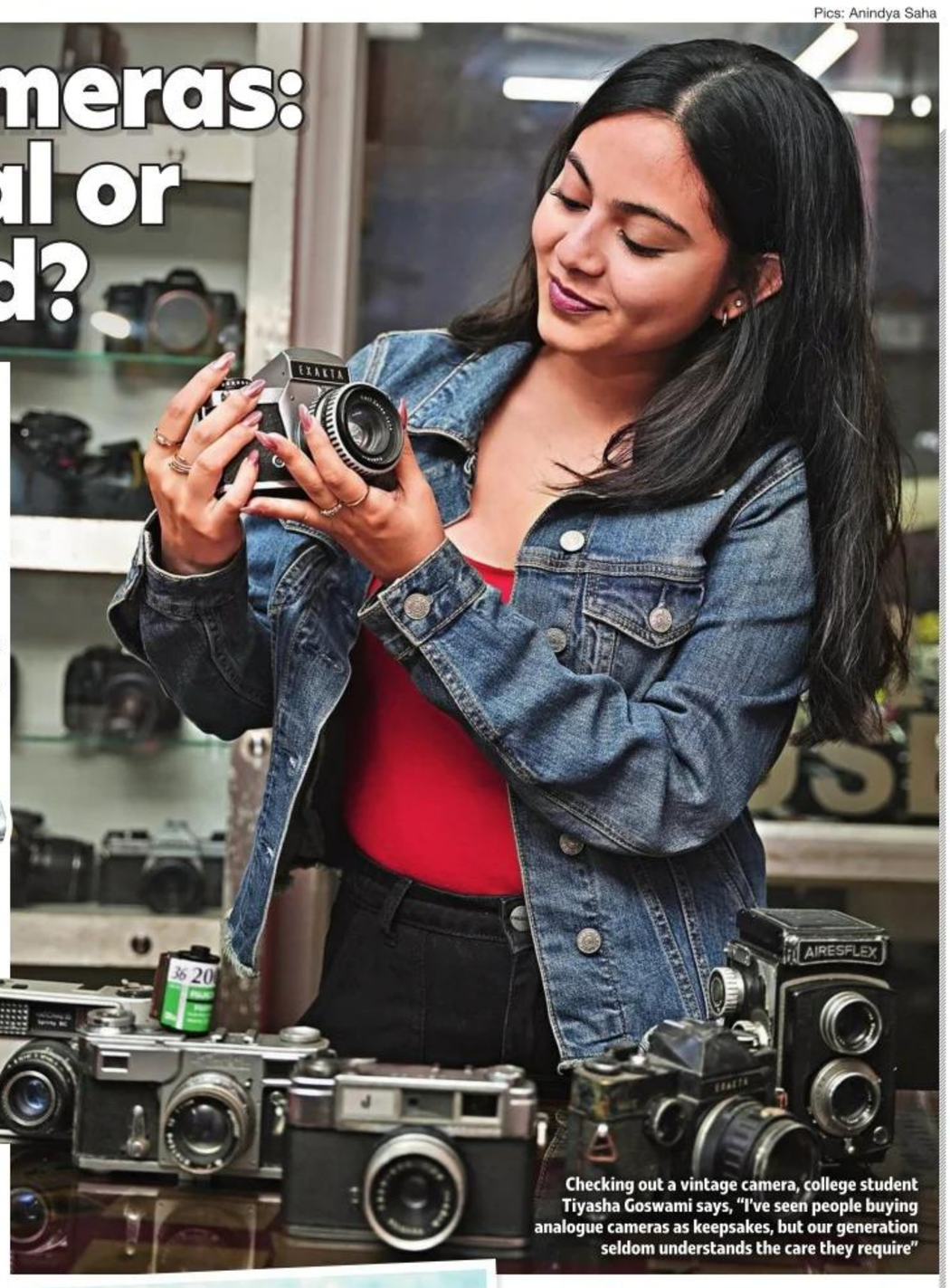
Donal Bisht is currently shooting her first international film in China and her family back home is worried about the HMPV outbreak there. When we reached out to Donal, she said, "I am shooting for a project in Foshan with director Andrew Lau, who has made films like *Internal Affairs* and *Women from Mars*. When I was finalised for the role, there were no reports of the virus, but by the time I travelled to China in January, HMPV had started spreading."

The actress, who has been part of TV serials and web shows, added, "My parents and friends back home are worried about me. This was a work commitment, so I couldn't postpone it. People here are taking a lot of precautions. I'm wearing a mask all the time. Luckily, the location where we are currently shooting is far away from where most of the cases have been found. As soon as my schedule is over in a few days, I will return to India."

— Hasti Doshi

Pics: Anindya Saha

Analogue cameras: A retro revival or fleeting trend?



Checking out a vintage camera, college student Tiyasha Goswami says, "I've seen people buying analogue cameras as keepsakes, but our generation seldom understands the care they require"

In a world of instant snapshots, some photographers are embracing patience and manual focus with analogue cameras

Eshna Bhattacharya

Just when we thought film cameras had been safely packed away in nostalgia's attic, they've clawed their way back into relevance. But is this a fleeting hipster trend or a full-fledged rebellion against the instant gratification of digital? Let's rewind.

> **Despite high costs and digital ease, analogue is still alive. There's something about a photo slowly coming to life in a darkroom**
> – Ajay Das, photographer

Wildlife photographer Subhasish Bhandari shares, "Once upon a time, photographers had to memorise settings in analogue cameras for different times of the day"

Film photography: A luxury hobby?

Love isn't cheap, neither is film photography. Camera seller Tanvir Ahmed says, "The price of film has shot up from ₹50 to ₹500. And that's just the beginning of the struggle. First, you need to buy film, then comes the hunt for developing chemicals. Finally, there's the processing part itself - it's all very expensive."

₹800 is the current average price of film

THE HUNT FOR VINTAGE CAMERAS

A large number of people are returning to film photography, says Rafiq Khan a camera shop owner. "Numerous people are coming to us in search of analogue cameras. Vintage lenses are flying off the shelves too."

'Shooting on film makes a statement'

For photographer Indraneel Sanyal, shooting on film makes a statement. "I still use film cameras because film photography makes a statement. Many don't know the thrill of analogue. There's no waste - you have just one shot, so you have to make it count," he says.

> **Analogue cameras rarely need repairs, but when they do, it's difficult – parts are unavailable, and fixing them requires extra time, effort and sheer luck**
> – Mehrab Alam, a camera-repair specialist

The repair struggle

For many, the real challenge isn't just finding an analogue camera, but a place that can handle repairs and maintenance. Camera repair expert Ganendranath Samanta, says, "Analogue cameras are coming back, but the new generation of repairers have no clue how to fix them."

Chinese tourist town apologises for 'fake cotton snow'

iStock

A file picture of Sichuan province; (inset) screengrab from a viral video shows cotton used to simulate snow at the Chengdu village

A tourist village in China's southwestern province of Sichuan famed for its scenic snow landscape has apologised for using cotton and soapy water to create fake snow after online criticism from visitors went viral.

In a post on its official Wechat account on February 8, the Chengdu Snow Village project said that during the Lunar New Year holiday at the end of January, the weather was warm and the snow village did not take shape as anticipated.

Following criticism on social media, the tourist area began cleaning up all the snow cotton. The village authorities said it "deeply apologises" for the changes and that tourists could get a refund. The site has since been closed.

Photos on Wechat showed large cotton wool sheets strewn about the grounds, only partially covering the leafy areas. "A thick snow layer appeared to blanket the houses in the zone but as you got closer, it was all cotton," noted a tourist on social media. "A snow village without snow," said another user, adding "In today's age of well-developed Internet, scenic spots must advertise truthfully and avoid deception or false advertising, otherwise they will only shoot themselves in the foot." Reuters

> **To create a snowy atmosphere, the village purchased cotton for the snow... but it did not achieve the expected effect, leaving a very bad impression on tourists**
> – Chengdu Snow Village authorities in a statement

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